

Júlia Karosi was born to a musical family. Her mother is a renowned opera singer in Hungary, and her brother is an international award-winning concert organist. She has started to play the piano and violin when she was six, and she sung in school choirs at an early age. Soon she became interested in many areas of creative arts; she wrote poems, composed music, and took acting lessons. Her interest in human studies led her to win a distinguished award at the National High School Philosophy Contest. This award served her as a springboard to enter the Eötvös Lóránd University of Budapest majoring in Aesthetics and Philosophy. She earned two Master's Degrees. While at the University, she turned her interest towards Jazz, and started studying it in a more rigorous manner. She entered a private music school to study with Gábor Winand. Then she started to learn at the Liszt Ferenc Music Academy in the faculty of jazz singing.

In 2009 she got the Jury's Special Mention of the Voicingers International Jazz Competition For Singing Musicians in Zory, Poland. In 2010 after an audition to a Talent-mentor Program organized by the Liszt Ferenc Music Academy, the jury chose her as one of the five students who deserves a special mentoration. In 2011 at the Jazz Combo Competition organized by the Hungarian Jazz Federation her Quartet won the second prize with the singer's composition Sketches. In 2012 she has participated in the Finals of Crest Jazz Vocal, France.

Júlia established her own Quartet in 2010. Their repertoire consists mostly of original compositions. Their sound is a mixture of classical music and modern jazz, their sounding is sensible, delicate, looking for a clear-out sonority. Júlia has performed in various jazz clubs and well-known jazz venues, touring in Europe and performing frequently in the New York jazz scene.

Hidden Roots was her second album as a leader and the follow-up to the successful Stroller of the City Streets (released in February, 2012 by Whereabouts Records, Japan). Hidden Roots (released in March, 2014 by Dot Time Records, New York) contains a number of Júlia's new compositions and as the name eludes to, arrangements of Hungarian folk songs. The compositions are beautifully and intelligently written, performed with great inspiration, crossing all boundaries of jazz.

More recently Júlia tours with a brand new Gershwin Project. It presents the most famous pieces of George Gershwin, as well as less known songs, featuring a String Quartet. The concert evokes the real Broadway atmosphere with a modern twist.

Apart from performing jazz, she improvises to classical music with two extraordinary musicians: Ditta Rohmann and László Fassang. Júlia also performs the music of Maurice Ravel, Manuel De Falla, Béla Bartók, and Zoltán Kodály with the Musiciens Libres orchestra.

In 2017 Júlia won the prestigious Dezső Lakatos Ablakos Scholarship. Her new musical project is a tribute piece to Béla Bartók, playing instrumental themes transcribed to vocal, from Microcosmos and the Romanian Folk Dances.

“Bartók's music is a cradle for all of us Hungarian musicians. He is an eternal inspiration also in the way to find our roots musically.”

PRESS QUOTES

"Júlia Karosi is a vocalist who bring her passion for music into her original compositions and lyrics. Her sound encompasses rich lows, pure high notes and a soulful timbre, while her spot-on intonation in both lyrics and improvisation makes her musical intentions perfectly clear." (*Judy Niemack*)

"Here we have Julia Karosi and her wonderful musicians from Hungary whose every song is a delicious short story. The compositions are beautifully and intelligently written and performed with great inspiration and will be a joy to the ear, of many I'm convinced crossing the boundaries of jazz." (*David Linx*)

"Karosi has a lovely voice and she uses her instrument with an infectious creative artistry. Her album and its musical choices suggest very clearly that Hungarian traditions are mine seams waiting for the knowing miner." (*Jack Goodstein*)

"Júlia Karosi's brilliant album *Hidden Roots* offers compelling evidence that jazz has truly become a global music. Here, Budapest-based vocalist Karosi and her extraordinary quartet effortlessly combine modern jazz with classic Hungarian folk songs." (*Thomas Cunniffe*)

"As a jazz reviewer, I hear such a plethora of vocalists who are popping out albums like corn kernels at a movie theater, many that are bland as unsalted butter. It's so wonderful to hear a fresh voice that is full bodied, melodic and not nasal, and one that is composing and arranging her own music." (*Dee Dee McNeil*)

"I had only listened once before sitting down to write the review, but found Julia's voice simply stunning when I got back 'round to it. I give Julia & crew a MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, with an "EQ" (energy quotient) of 4.99." (*Dick Metcalf*)

"Posing no real answer to the question of what is jazz, Karosi and her pals aren't worried about it in the least, they just play. The boundaries are pushed nicely and not radically, and the chops on display cut across all languages and borders." (*Chris Spector*)

"Júlia spends much of her time melismatically and with a very interesting interpolation I think will intrigue non-European listeners" (*Mark S. Tucker*)

"The real attraction is the extraordinary musicality of Julia Karosi - a resplendent voice, full of beauty and intelligence, all that and a team of superb musicians backing her." (*Grady Harp*)