

# SABRINA LASTMAN

VOCALIST - PERFORMER - COMPOSER



## Short bio

Drawing from jazz, Latin American, and contemporary music, often integrating extended vocal techniques, New York based vocalist, performer, and composer Sabrina Lastman has created and performed interdisciplinary new music projects incorporating voice, sound, movement, and visuals – these include *Dialogues of Silence*, *On Becoming*, and *River of Painted Birds*. Described as an artist who “embraces the audience with the sweetness of her voice,” she has also lead three exciting jazz projects -*Sabrina Lastman Quartet*, *Candombe Jazz Project*, and *Tango Jazz Duo*. Born in Montevideo, Uruguay, Sabrina has performed at La Mama, ISSUE Project Room, Carnegie Hall, Juilliard, Yale University, New York University, Rutgers University, Blue Note, Joe's Pub, Blues Alley Jazz, Museo del Barrio, City University of New York and Classical Guitar Association of New York, among others. She has played with musicians such as Fernando Otero (Grammy Award Winner), Bakithi Kumalo, Tali Roth, Pablo Aslan (Grammy Award Nominated), Emilio Solla, Pedro Giraudó, David Silliman, The M6, Philip Hamilton, Sasha Bogdanowitsch and Leonardo Suarez-Paz. Her album *The Folds of the Soul* was nominated by the Graffiti Award 2008 as one of the best jazz albums of the year, and it was considered of cultural interest by the Ministry of Culture and Education in Uruguay. She was invited to sing her compositions based on the poems of Uruguayan poet Idea Vilariño at the presentation of the book *Idea Vilariño: La Vida Escrita*. Sabrina was awarded grants from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) & New York City Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), and the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA). She is the co-artistic director of *Vital Vox: A Vocal Festival* that explores the myriad power of the human voice in its solo and ensemble forms across a multitude of genres. It celebrates composer-performers in the vocal arts that stretch and expand the voice in new and original ways ([www.vitalvoxfest.com](http://www.vitalvoxfest.com)). Sabrina has toured in Israel, Uruguay, Argentina, and the United States playing in many musical and interdisciplinary projects from Tango to New Music. She graduated from The Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance in Israel. [www.sabrina-lastman.com](http://www.sabrina-lastman.com)

## Interdisciplinary Music Projects

### **Dialogues of Silence**

Sabrina Lastman - conception, compositions, voice, bells, wood sticks (claves), megaphone, walkman, recorded processed poem, movement.

Shige Moriya - live visuals | <http://sites.google.com/site/shigemoriya>

Duration: 35 min.

Venues performed: Yale University, New York University, Rutgers University, City University of New York, and Iati Theatre, among others.

*Dialogues of Silence* is an interdisciplinary performance of voice, sound, movement and visuals. This new music theatre piece is based on the poetry and inner world perception of Uruguayan poet Idea Vilariño. In this performance, Vilariño's existentialist poetry meets music & sounds that create a world beyond the limits of the text's power. *Dialogues of Silence* consists of a solo vocal artist who translates the poetic atmosphere into a dance and sound experience.

*"Silence is part of the self, and of the relation with others. Silence gives the space/time to dialogue, and it is a form of dialogue in itself. There are different ways of 'living' the silence. It is silence which allows us to listen, think, observe, feel, be... present". S.L.*

### **River of Painted Birds**

David Silliman: drums, percussion, electronic drum | [www.davidsilliman.com](http://www.davidsilliman.com)

Helen Dannis: visuals | [www.helendennis.com](http://www.helendennis.com)

Duration: 30 min.

Venues performed: ISSUE Project Room.

*River of Painted Birds* by Sabrina Lastman is a new work commissioned by NYSCA. This music performance is created for solo voice (sung & spoken), and prerecorded voice & sound tracks (tape recorder/walkman, computer) combining composed sections and free improvisation. It looks for a musical balance among elements of jazz, experimental and contemporary music. This new piece is inspired by the poetry and texts of writers and thinkers --ex-political prisoners-- that created their work as a consequence of the repression during and after the dictatorship period of the seventies in Uruguay. *River of Painted Birds* was created on Ubuntu (OS) using Linux, SooperLooper, Ardour, Jack, and Ladish programs.

### **On Becoming**

Sasha Bogdanowitsch: voice, doso'ngoni, swarsangam, percussion, halo & electronics | [www.sashabmusic.com](http://www.sashabmusic.com)

Sabrina Lastman: voice, kantele, percussion & electronics.

Duration: 60 min.

Venues performed: La Mama Moves Festival at La Mama, Performing Arts Marathon (PAM) at Iati Theatre.

*On Becoming* is an original music theatre work for two a cappella voices, recorded music, electronics, and live instruments, that unites and explores the boundaries between music, movement, theatre and visuals. This work explores the dimensions and dynamics of the self, and the perpetual capacity of transformation. Conception & compositions: Sasha Bogdanowitsch and Sabrina Lastman.

[www.socorpo.com](http://www.socorpo.com)

**For further information & bookings:**

*Sabrina Lastman*

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## Selected Quotes

***Sabrina Lastman embraces the audience with the sweetness of her voice. It doesn't matter if she sings in Spanish, English or Portuguese; her vocal timber, her powerful voice, her gesticulation and her concentration say a lot about this singer. Sabrina improvises very naturally, in a rhythmic and spontaneous way... not just 'the voice as an instrument', Sabrina is an instrument herself.***

-Rodrigo Ribeiro – delUruguaY.net (Uruguay)

*Ms. Lastman explores all the different colors and timbres the human voice can create without modification through electronics...a great exploration in what sounds a single person can make.*

-Open Source Music (USA)

*Perennially eclectic and innovative.*

-Alan Young. Lucid Culture (USA)

*Sabrina Lastman premiered...River of Painted Birds, which she sang accompanied by electronics, some video and some drumming from David Silliman. The sound was rich, evocative and frequently lovely, with Lastman singing with mellifluous phrasing...*

-George Grella. The Big City (USA)

*Outstanding singer and composer. The 'Folds of the Soul' offers, from a very powerful individual perspective, original compositions and standards. Comprehending a wide musical spectrum...it reaches a cohesive discourse of solid creative rigor, with a clear orientation to avant-garde jazz. Sabrina sings with irreproachable technical display, and unusual expressive intensity.*

-Sergio Piccirilli – El Intruso (Argentina/ USA)

*Her imaginative sounds, her rich range of sound, her musical vocabulary, and her creativity are vital and profound.*

-Anat Shamgar – The Jerusalem Academy of Music & Dance (Israel)

*I have been deeply moved and impressed by her performance of different styles of music from jazz improvisation to tango and Brazilian tunes. I would honestly say that her level of musicianship and technical facility, apart from being world class, is both exceptional and rare. She has a unique approach and puts her own mark on every piece she plays whether she improvises or interprets an original composition.*

-Tali Roth – classical guitar player. Juilliard (USA)

