

JPJQ The Story of the Band



In the back bedroom of a rented house in East Vancouver, a band was born.

"I grew up singing jazz; my dad plays sax and Mom was a pianist. We used to jam every week in the basement of our old house in Edmonton, when I was growing up. I've always loved this music... it just took me awhile to come back to it."

-Julia Pinckney Jones

JPJQ started as a series of morning jam sessions with Adam, Julia and founding guitarist Andrew R Smith in 2010. Over the next five years, they played all around Vancouver BC, working with several amazing drummers including Brendan Krieg, Jamie Carter and Max Ley.

When Julia and Adam moved to Portland, OR in the summer of 2015, they made a commitment to keeping JPJQ alive in Vancouver, while forming a new version of the band in Portland. Joining forces with another ex-Vancouverite, Dr Timothy VanCleave, as well as Berklee grad Alex Margititch, "Team Portland" has been picking up steam in Oregon, while "Team Vancouver" is planning a Canadian tour in 2017.



Julia Pinckney Jones Quartet

www.jpjqjazz.com

503-841-9693

booking@jpjqjazz.com

JPJQ Team Portland



Adam R Jones

Bassist/Arranger

A versatile and accomplished bassist/music educator/conductor/composer/arranger, as well as a great bandleader in his own right, Adam is thrilled to be returning to Portland's jazz scene.

His fantastic playing, creative arrangements and good humour are a driving force in JPJQ and we know we're lucky to have him!



Timothy VanCleave

Drums

Since childhood Timothy has always been infatuated by sound and rhythm. He brings a wide range of musical influence and experience to the group.

We're thrilled to be collaborating with Timothy. His dry wit, laid-back attitude, and musical versatility made him an easy choice to join JPJQ.



Alexander Mangititch

Guitar

A graduate of Boston's Berklee College of Music, California native Alexander spent the last several years living in Brooklyn, NY before relocating to Portland in 2016.

We are excited to be some of the first to introduce Alexander's talents to Portland audiences, not to mention the sweet East Coast cool he brings to JPJQ's sound!



Julia Pinckney Jones

Vocals

And, of course, there's Julia herself! Julia is a fourth generation musician and is deeply proud to be following in the footsteps of so many in her family. Since moving to Portland in 2015 with husband Adam R Jones, JPJQ Team Portland has become a second family for her - energetic, creative, supportive people who are always there when it's time to make music!



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JPJQ Team Vancouver



Adam R Jones

Bass/Arranger

Adam's sweet bass grooves and inventive arrangements are at the heart of JPJQ's sound, as well as that of many other bands across Canada and the US.

A prolific arranger/composer, in 2015/16 alone, he did arrangements for major stage shows, numerous arrangements for David Watson and Tony Barton as well as all the songs for JPJQ's album and live shows.



Andrew R Smith

Guitar

JPJQ grew out of jam sessions with Andrew, and his nuanced feel for JPJQ's "old-timey jazz" has made its mark on JPJQ's sound and direction.

A multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, composer and producer, Andrew's work is regularly featured on national radio and television, as well as on stages throughout BC.



Max Loeg

Drums

Already well-known in Vancouver music circles, Max's enthusiasm and perfect beats complete the quartet in a wonderful way.

Max's talent, warm and always positive personality, and the fact that he and Julia can be secret theatre nerds together make him someone we're always excited to return home to!



Julia Pinckney Jones

Vocals

Born and raised in Canada into a very musical family, Julia has sung jazz and dixieland standards since childhood, and was excited to return to that world as an adult in JPJQ.

She moved to Portland, OR in 2015 with husband Adam R Jones, but is always thrilled to return to Canada to perform with JPJQ. She is honoured and delighted that Andrew and Max are always so willing to jump back in!



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JPJQ About Julia

Born and raised on the Canadian prairie, Julia grew up singing jazz standards with her parents. After a lengthy detour through light opera, musical theatre, top 40, hard rock, disco, alt-country, R&B, reggae and neo-soul, she has taken all the best from her eclectic career and brought it back home.

Combining her love of classic jazz styles with her enjoyment of more modern repertoire, JPJQ's blend of tradition, ingenuity and joyful noise feels like that joyful homecoming.

Julia's vocals are an unapologetic departure from those of the "smoky-voiced chanteuses" the modern jazz audience has come to expect. Influenced as much by Aretha as by Ella or Billie, her sheer joy in making music always charms and captivates her audience.



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Julia Pinckney Jones Quartet



JPJQ

I Want Love

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"Singing Mom's songs to her, and the ones she used to sing to me as a little girl - those are the songs that live in the part of my heart that made me want to sing, even when it felt like my world was falling apart. And that needed to be on the record."

Julia Pinckney Jones

About the Album

JPJQ's debut album, *I Want Love*, captures a pivotal moment in the life of the band. What began as a demo EP for the cross-border quartet deepened into a much more meaningful and intimate project after the death of Julia's mother, Canadian composer and pianist Joyce Pinckney, in August 2015.

JPJQ returned to Monarch Studios Vancouver BC after a successful Indiegogo fundraising campaign to expand and complete the album, featuring three of Joyce Pinckney's original songs, including the new title track, "I Want Love." The resulting album loses none of JPJQ's ebullience and "joyful noise," but gains depth of emotion, heart, and a story worth telling. "I Want Love" was released in 2016.

"I Want Love" is available on iTunes, Amazon, CDBaby and directly from JPJQ's website.

Quotes & Reviews

"...An enjoyable collection of unique singing, playing and inventive arrangements. For example, "Sweet Dreams (Are Made of This)," has a brilliant phrasing of the melody set to an exceptional feel. The ensemble sounds great and [Pinckney Jones'] singing is fantastic."

Jeff Williams, Kari-On Productions

The new album by JPJQ is full of lovely surprises! Pinckney Jones' tribute to her mother is touching showcased in the sweetest song "I Want Love." The musicians that are showcased are all top-notch and enjoyable to listen to - it's hard to pick just one favourite off of this album!

Dawn-Marie Duncan, radio host 92.5 "The X"



This album is action-packed and dialed right into the jazz lover's heart. Bassist Adam Jones' arrangements are meticulous and subtle, creating counter-melodies that reveal that this is not just any old ragtag jazz band, but a highly efficient jazz machine that has soul. Throughout, Pinckney Jones' vocals swing as hard as I've ever heard a jazz singer do. Her feel for the depth of the pocket is unparalleled.

The fresh take on cover song "Sweet Dreams" is a nice surprise and whole lot of fun. [Also] standing out is "Tears of Sorrow," a soulful and bluesy song on which Pinckney Jones stretches out her vocal chops and maximizes the emotion and depth. The duet between vocalist Julia and bassist Adam on "My Baby Just Cares for Me" is magical; a perfectly complementary duet [that] exemplifies their real-life romantic chemistry.

Just when you think you have figured out what the album is about, they bust out with a wild swing cover of Steve Miller Band's "Rock'n Me," an exquisite arrangement [featuring] horns. Immediately following is an energy-charged dixieland version of Jelly Roll Morton's tune "Milenburg Joys," utilizing the horns to create that multi-improvisational effect that makes dixieland so joyful to hear. The album wraps up with classic Stormy Weather done up super bluesy. When the band strays away like this from the traditional jazz sound into a 12/8 power ballad, organ ringing through, it wins the award for soul in my books. You can feel every note deep inside your heart.

Anita Eccleston, musician and jazz blogger

JPJQ



Swing Favorites & Favorites that Swing!

JPJQ surprises and delights audiences with its genre-crossing, postmodern interpretations of anthemic hits of the 70s, 80s, 90s and beyond, as well as collaborating with unusual artists and ensembles including alt-country songwriters, indie rockers, and string quartets, as well as a top-notch horn section whenever possible!

Their high-energy blend of tradition, ingenuity and joyful noise is irresistible; they'll bring a smile to your face, a song to your lips, and a bounce to your step. You'll even feel a little tug at your heartstrings thrown into the bargain!

Anchored by vocalist Julia Pinckney Jones and bassist/arranger Adam R Jones, JPJQ is completed by Timothy VanCleave and Alexander Margititch in Portland, and by Andrew R Smith and Max Ley in Vancouver, BC.

"The live show was spectacular...
wonderful when a band can 'bring it'
onstage like they do on the record,
and vice versa."

- Anita Eccleston, Trumpeter & Vocalist

Genre

Jazz / American Songbook / Swing /
Blues / Canadiana / Trad Jazz

Sounds Like

Sharon Jones, Maxine Sullivan, Annie
Lennox, Banu Gibson, Sweetpea
Swing Band, Postmodern Jukebox,
Little Miss Higgins, Anita Eccleston,
Madeleine Peyroux

Contact & Social Media

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YouTube	http://tiny.cc/jpjqjazz



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A close-up photograph of a woman with long, curly, light brown hair, singing passionately into a black microphone. She is wearing a purple top and a dark necklace. The background is dark and out of focus.

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