

BIOGRAPHY CÉLINE RUDOLPH



Born and raised in Berlin, Céline had already been influenced by music during her entire childhood. Inspired by her French mother, she started to write chansons at age twelve. Her father introduced her to Afro-American and Brazilian music. Browsing her parent's record collection, Céline discovered the Portuguese language as a significant stylistic element. In short: multi-path orientation was on the cards from the very beginning. After university studies of rhetorics and philosophy, she realized that music exerted a much stronger pull, so she switched to a degree in vocal jazz and composition at Hochschule der Künste, Berlin with mentors David Friedman, Jerry Granelli, Kirk Nurock and Catherine Gayer.

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In 1990 Céline Rudolph founded "out of print", her first band, with which she released two albums on Nabel Records: *PAINTINGS* (1994) and *BOOK OF TRAVELS* (1996). She then won the "1. Leipziger Jazznachwuchsfestival" award and toured widely throughout Africa and the Balkans (Goethe Institute). Numerous festival performances, radio, TV and album productions introduced her to a large audience and got her in contact with internationally acclaimed musicians such as Bob Moses, Anthony Cox, Marc Ducret (on Céline's first solo album *SEGREDO* in 1999) as well as Gary Peacock (Andreas Schmidt's album *BERLIN*, 1999). In 1995 she plunged into African music and stayed in West Africa to study with percussionist Famoudou Konaté.

During the late nineties she moved to Cologne and joined many creative bands of the current scene. In 2001 she won the "Szene Nordrhein-Westfalen" contest as part of the festival "Leverkusener Jazztage" with her vocalist band *MOSAÏQ*. She also won the "JazzArt – Music of 21st century" contest with her band *FÁBULA* (Jürgen Friedrich and Hayden Chisholm), having been selected by an international jury including Django Bates, Nils Petter Molvaer and Huub van de Riel. She also shared her passion for vocal improvisations in many purely vocal encounters with established musicians such as Jay Clayton, Bobby McFerrin, Lauren Newton as well as her own vocal band *MOSAÏQ*. Performances with Lee Konitz, Gary Peacock and David Friedman happened alongside crossover projects like Peter Fulda's adaptation of Arnold Schönberg's "Pierrot Lunaire", "Barock meets Jazz" and contemporary composer Moritz Eggert's album *WIDE UNCLASP* with Gerry Hemingway and Steven Bernstein among others. Céline Rudolph loves to lead dialogues in all areas, from pure entertainment to contemporary classics.

"YOU ARE REALLY FUN" – Bobby McFerrin

She has been both professor and Head of Department of vocal jazz at „Carl Maria von Weber Hochschule für Musik“ in Dresden since 2003.

In 2004 her compositions were adapted for large ensemble and performed by "Cologne Contemporary Jazz Orchestra" at the festival "Köln Triennale", featuring herself as the soloist.

In 2005 she was invited by radio Bayerischer Rundfunk to sing with French Baroque interpreter Gérard Lesne on Peter Fulda's project "Barock meets Jazz".

In 2006 she worked with trumpet player Dusko Gojkovic on his album *SAMBA TZIGANE* (enja records) and with André Nendza's on *A-TRONIC*. The German cultural institute "Goethe Institut" invited her as musical director of "Lisboa-Maputo-Berlin", a musical mix of different cultures, including Ruben Alves, João Gomes, Gogui, Chico Fernandes and many guest musicians. Since then, Céline has dived into Lisbon's African music scene on a regular basis and composed new songs inspired by her artistic residency.

That same year, she completed her album BRAZAVENTURE in São Paulo, co-produced by Rodolfo Stroeter (who among things produced Gilberto Gil's OSLODUM for the label "Pau Brasil") with top-class musicians such as Marcos Suzano, Toninho Ferragutti, Paulo Bellinati, Mônica Salmaso and Sérgio Santos. The première of the Brazilian album was celebrated with much success at São Paulo's "SESC Pompéia" with reknown band PAU BRASIL ("Copa da Cultura").

In 2007 BRAZAVENTURE was released by "enja records". The band toured in Europe with the original line-up. In the autumn, Céline Rudolph again was invited to play with PAU BRASIL at "Memorial das Americas Latinas" in São Paulo (Festival "Raizes Culturais").



The project "Lisboa-Maputo-Berlin" celebrated its première at the "Centro Cultural de Belém" in Lisbon and Maputo (Mozambique) with much success. Finally Berlin marked the last part with a concert at beautiful theater "Hebbel am Ufer" in September 2008.

2007/08: Studio time for her next album METAMORFLORES with legend Naná Vasconcelos, Rodolfo Stroeter, Ricardo Mosca, Toninho Ferragutti, Diego Figueiredo, Marlui Miranda, Paulo Bellinati, Rüdiger Krause, Till Brönner and string orchestra.



She wrote the french lyrics to the Till Brönner song SOUMISE À LA TENTATION for the soundtrack of German movie „Zwischen heute und morgen“ (Fred Breinersdorfer 2009). As in 2008 the Bossa Nova turned 50, Céline Rudolph celebrated „50ys of Bossa Nova“ at the A-Trane Jazzclub Berlin.

“CÉLINE HAS SUNG US INTO A TRANCE JUST LIKE SHE HERSELF IS ENTIRELY IMMERSSED IN HER MUSIC AND FLIES WITH IT AS IN A TRANCE. HER INTERPRETATION OF BADEN POWELL'S 'DEIXA' IS AN HOMAGE TO BRAZILIAN MUSIC. I CAN JUDGE THIS SINCE I HAVE BEEN INVESTIGATING THE BRAZILIAN SOUL FOR THIRTY YEARS!”

Roberto Gambini, Brazilian writer

2009 Première of the film documentary „Lisboa-Maputo-Berlin“ on 3rd of July in Lisbon, Portugal. Céline Rudolph presented her new album METAMORFLORES on an extended tour through Europe and the album got her the jazz award ECHO JAZZ as best jazz vocalist in 2010.

2011: Release of the album SALVADOR (Verve/Universal Music), available in two versions (French and German – with translations of Céline). She toured the album widely with her quintet including Zé-Luis Nascimento (Brazil/Paris), Gogui Embaló (Guinea Bissau/Lisboa), Andi Bühler and Rüdiger Krause (Berlin/Germany).

In 2012 she appeared on Wolfgang Haffners album HEART OF THE MATTER (ACT). The performances with her quintet were broadcasted by Radio BR in Munich and by RadioDeutschlandRadio Kultur in Bremen (international music trade fair „jazzahead!“) The same year Céline became official translator and lyricist of Charles Aznavour's chanson VA in German (GEH) for Budde Publishing.

In 2013 Céline Rudolph started the collaboration with New York based musicians Lionel Loueke, Jamire Williams, Burniss Travis, Leo Genovese, John Ellis and songwriter Josh Mease. She co-produced her future album "PEARLS" with Jamire Williams at Brooklyn Recording Studio, Cobble Hill, NY, while touring Germany, Austria and the Netherlands 2014.

During 2015 she started the duo collaboration with Beninese guitarist Lionel Loueke, having played together at 12th Jarasum Int. Jazz Festival in South Korea. Studio session at A-Trane Studio Berlin for their duo album OBSESSION.

In **2016** Céline Rudolph became the official translator of A.C. Jobim's song ÁGUA DE BEBER (ALLES WASSER) for Budde Publishing which she recorded with Rodolfo Stroeter, Ricardo Mosca, Webster Santos and Tiago Costa in São Paulo in summer 2016.

Céline Rudolph focused more and more on her solo performances and played her first solo concert at the Jazz & the City Festival in Salzburg (Austria) in October **2016**.

"I AM IN MY ELEMENT IN A LIVE PERFORMANCE. I LOVE THE ADRENALINE, THE HERE AND NOW, THE SURPRISE AND THE POWER WHICH THE STAGE GRANTS ME. ON STAGE, I CAN FEEL THE SPACE, I CAN FEEL THE AUDIENCE AS PART OF THE PERFORMANCE. THE AUDIENCE STRENGTHENS MY ENERGY. HERE I GIVE MYSELF TO THE MUSIC AND BECOME TRANSPARENT, I BECOME ENTIRELY BODY, ENTIRELY SOUL."

Céline Rudolph



In February **2017** Céline Rudolph returned to New York to play at "Bonafide Club" (NYC) with Helio Alves (p), Edward Perez (b) and Mauricio Zotarelli (dr).

She founded her own music label "Obsessions" (distributed by membran/the orchard) in **2017**. The prelude was formed by the duo album OBSESSION with Lionel Loueke (recorded in Berlin/New York) in October **2017**.

In **2018** the duo played their release tour in Germany, Austria and France. A highlight of that year was the Friday night headline show on Elbjazz2018 festival in Hamburg, playing the Grand Hall which was recorded and filmed. Furthermore she toured seven West African countries with Lionel Loueke on behalf of "Goethe Institut". The album OBSESSION reached the annual list of the German Critics Award „Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik“ and won Céline Rudolph the prestigious German Jazz Award ECHO JAZZ 2018 as best jazz vocalist. The same year her new project PEARLS toured in Italy (Sicily) for the first time.

The very year she appeared as improvising soloist in the afro-brazilian music for the ballet „Balé da cidade de São Paulo“ on occasion of the exhibition „Histórias afro-atlânticas“ at the Museum of Art of São Paulo (MASP).

2019 Release of the album PEARLS on "Obsessions" on June 21, 2019 with the Official Music Video Pearls.