



## CANDICE REYES

An acclaimed jazz vocalist and recording artist from El Paso, Tx, Candice Reyes has gained a reputation as an active Latina jazz vocalist in both the East and West coast. While residing in New Jersey with husband saxophonist Abel Mireles and actively involved in the New York City scene, she released two solo albums "Crossing Over" produced by Mack Goldsbury with Shade Records in 2014 and her latest album "Your Way" 2018. The project "Your Way" includes original compositions and arrangements produced by saxophonist Abel Mireles. Their title track single "Your Way"

written by Reyes and Mireles features the dynamic musical couple in action. The project was released on The Jazz Exchange record label captures a refreshing artist processing the changes in life and identifying who she is, with a selection of significant melodies of original songs expressing her self-worth and vision. Featuring an incredible cast of musicians including special guest six-time GRAMMY award winner and renowned jazz bassist Christian McBride and GRAMMY nominee lead trumpeter Nathan Eklund as amazing collaborators and the Candice Reyes Quintet. As a band leader and established vocalist, Reyes puts her stamp on reimagined jazz standards with her lyrical skills, featured on two originals "Your Way" and "Live In The Moment". Her take on the arranged songs by Abel Mireles "50 Ways to Leave Your Lover" by Paul Simon and "Footsteps in the Dark" by the Isley Brothers are a mere example of her keen and contemporary sound to reimagine something new and innovative while staying true to the respective sounds that make music a constant evolving creator. The Candice Reyes Quintet toured in 2018 from the East Coast to the West Coast performing for many local festivals and venues.

Born April 18, 1986, into a musical family, the young vocalist has grown to evolve her style and character as a passionate performer. Reyes established herself in the local Bordertown El Paso jazz scene in her early career. Both her parents David and Dora Reyes were recognized and active full-time musicians in El Paso, Tx music scene. Growing up in a household filled with music, Reyes was introduced to jazz by her parents with her first cassette from 1985 with Ella Fitzgerald's "Tisket-A-Tasket". Being inspired and moved, Reyes began learning and listening to more music from her parent's collection. Reyes' gained recognition as a rising vocalist performing with local jazz musicians and established musical groups with her parents, as well as being recognized for her natural talent during school at J.M Hanks High School, where she sang with the award-winning jazz band. Candice was also part of the local El Paso Youth Jazz Program under the direction of jazz trumpeter and educator Marty Olivas as the first female jazz vocalist in her generation to partake in the program. The ensemble featured special guests such as New York saxophonist and educator at NYU Dave Pietro, where Reyes had the opportunity to sing alongside. Part of her musical experience evolved through her education at the University of Texas at El Paso receiving a bachelor's degree in Commercial Music in Vocal Performance.

Reyes brings all her widespread experiences and currently puts her focus on THE JAZZ EXCHANGE which she founded with her husband. The couple recently returned to El Paso where their passion for performing and working with the youth continues, as they prove to be visionary leaders and entrepreneurs whose work has been recognized locally and nationally. The musical couple-led organization's mission focuses on building communities through music and education.