

AIMÉE ALLEN

Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Aimée Allen's intimate connection with music began as a child. Her childhood was literally scored with classic jazz, because her mother kept selections from the tradition on the family turntable. This influence can be heard in Aimée's musical style and interpretation.

But listeners can also hear Aimée's individual voice, nuanced and sparkling with soul and sensuality. Though singing was a part of her childhood, Aimée first began singing professionally with jazz a cappella groups in college. After graduation, Aimée moved to Paris where she performed regularly in jazz clubs and festivals. The deep relationship between the francophone audiences and Brazilian bossa nova, led Aimée to form Les Bossa Novices, a Paris-based group dedicated to bossa and jazz.

Aimée now performs regularly in New York City and abroad. Standards and bossa are part of her repertoire, but now an accomplished composer, she also sings her original songs, many of which have become audience favorites. Her original music has also been licensed for feature film and network television.

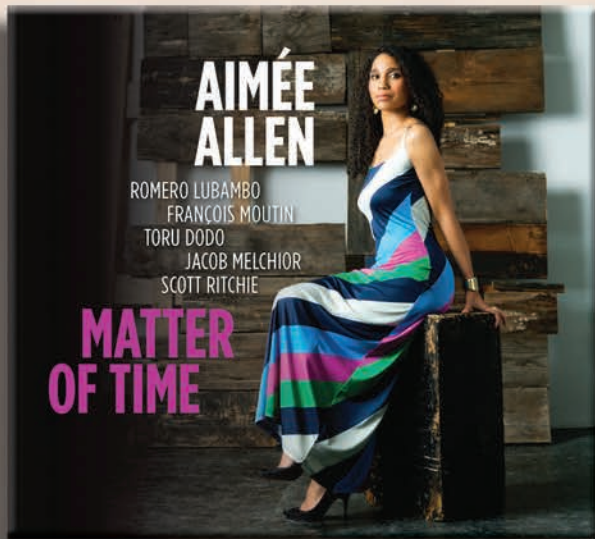
Aimée's new album **Matter of Time** features master Brazilian guitarist Romero Lubambo, François Moutin on bass, Toru Dodo on piano, and Jacob Melchior on drums. The album is an exciting and soulful collection of Aimée's new compositions, unconventional interpretations of standards, and special selections featuring Aimée and Romero in intimate duo formation.

Aimée's previous release, **Winters & Mays** is that rare combination of soulful, sensitive, and swinging. It includes Aimée's thoughtful original songs as well as reinterpretations of hand-picked gems, demonstrating Aimée's versatility through jazz, bossa, blues, tango, ballads and even pop. **Winters & Mays** was released on Azuline Music in 2011.

Aimée's second CD, **I'Inexplicable**, was the fruit of her trans-continental musical experiences and her talents as a writer. It is a collection of warm, soulful, jazz-pop originals blending African rhythms, Brazilian bossa, and classic jazz influences. Nearly all the tracks were written by Aimée and are sung in French. **I'Inexplicable** was released in Japan in 2008 on Vivid Sound and in Europe on Schubert Music. Aimée's original compositions from this album have been licensed for use in film and network television.

On her debut release, **Dream**, Aimée offered inspired interpretations of jazz standards, familiar bossa nova classics and one original composition. In keeping with her experiences, **Dream** includes vocals in English, French, and Portuguese.





"Allen exists as a whole, self-sustaining entity. Her round, sensuous alto has only smooth edges with a caress of warm linen. Her songwriting is top-notch . . ."

- **C. Michael Baily, All About Jazz**

"Truly an evolving and expansive vocal jazz artist . . ."

- **Geannine Reid, JazzTimes**

"A fully fledged composer, lyricist and vocalist, her ideas are filled with depth and meaning and her lyrics profoundly unique."

- **Constance Tucker, All About Vocals**

Matter of Time is a collection of highly original music about love and other transformations. Aimée's talents as a composer and lyricist are matched by dynamic arrangements, and the album goes from new takes on the familiar, to fresh vistas in uncharted territory. With Aimée's warm voice and soulful phrasing as the guide, this is not just any jazz vocal album.

After Aimée's critically acclaimed *Winters & Mays* (Azuline Music) in 2011, this project formed, deformed, and reformed over a year and a half. It was neither effort nor circumstance that determined the contours of the album, but time. When the time was right, Aimée's new compositions came together seamlessly with those of masters like Jobim, Ivan Lins, and Rogers and Hart, and those of her contemporaries, master bassist François Moutin, and guitarist David Allen (Aimée's brother), to create a cohesive whole.

Aimée is accompanied by an incredible cast of musicians, including special guest Romero Lubambo, the Grammy nominated master of Brazilian rhythm. With Romero on four selected tracks, bassist Scott Ritchie on one of them, and a rhythm section comprised of François Moutin, Toru Dodo, and Jacob Melchior on nine other tracks, vocal jazz is taken on new journeys, soulful original compositions deliver depth of meaning, and standards that are given new life.

1. Matter of Time (feat. Romero Lubambo)
2. Soul Cargo
3. My Romance
4. The Island (feat. Romero Lubambo)
5. Close Your Eyes
6. New Day
7. Sometimes You Just Know
8. Out of Nowhere
9. Qu'est-ce qu'on est bien ici (feat. Romero Lubambo)
10. In the Name of Love
11. Corcovado (feat. Romero Lubambo)
12. The Space Between
13. Matter of Time (Reprise, w/quartet)

Aimée Allen on vocals

Romero Lubambo on guitar (tracks 1, 4, 9, and 11)

Toru Dodo on piano and Fender Rhodes (tracks 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12 and 13)

François Moutin on bass (tracks 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12 and 13)

Jacob Melchior on drums (tracks 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12 and 13)

Scott Ritchie on bass (track 1)

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