

MASS MoCA

NEWS RELEASE

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Kat Edmonson

Voice of the Past, Voice of the Future



North Adams, Massachusetts — Billie Holiday comparisons are coming thick and fast for retro-soul chanteuse Kat Edmonson. Steve Greenlee of *The Boston Globe* called her 2012 album, *Way Down Low*, "one of the greatest vocal albums I've ever heard." Her 2014 follow up, *The Big Picture*, confirms it was no fluke: she is one of today's most exciting and original singers, a throwback

who is completely of the moment, a dazzling talent with a voice that's impossible to forget. **Kat Edmonson** performs at MASS MoCA on **Saturday, March 14, at 8pm.**

A stunningly sweet singer with a uniquely expressive voice, Kat Edmonson's timeless music mirrors her old soul, reflecting a fascination with the intricacies of human interaction and a penchant for old-fashioned romance. Forgoing formal vocal training, the Texas native wrote her first song at age 9, inspired by early study of the *Great American Songbook* and the idealized love seen in her favorite classic musicals. Her smart, lighthearted pop is equal parts vintage and contemporary, peppered with jazz-scatting, bursts of vibrato, and Latin-inspired grooves.

Skilled at reworking retro styles to suit a modern audience, Edmonson's kinship with the past only serves to propel her forward. Her signature musical style is firmly rooted in jazz, but pulls liberally from rock, pop, country, classical, and folk. The resulting sound is a potent, timeless blend that's all her own. She prefers to interpret lyrics with delicacy and restraint, finding power in subtlety. *The New York Times* calls Edmonson "fresh as a spring bouquet...intuitive about melody and handy with a turn of phrase."

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When Edmonson burst onto the Austin, Texas, music scene in 2009, she was welcomed with open arms; her self-released 2009 debut, *Take to the Sky*, made Billboard's jazz chart's top 20, became a top seller on iTunes, and was featured on many of the year's 'top 10' lists. She soon found herself playing concert halls and festivals around the world, performing on *Austin City Limits* and *A Prairie Home Companion*, and providing songs to be featured on television shows and commercials. She released her second album, *Way Down Low*, to universal acclaim, earning her the attention of Sony Music Masterworks, which will release her third album, *The Big Picture*.

Kat Edmonson performs in MASS MoCA's Club B-10 on **Saturday, March 14, at 8pm**. Dinner and snacks are available from Lickety Split before and during the show. A full bar serves Berkshire Brewing Company beers and Berkshire Mountain Distillery spirits. Tickets go on sale Friday, November 21, at 11am, and are \$10 for students, \$16 in advance, \$22 day of, and \$26 preferred. Tickets for all events are available through the MASS MoCA box office located on Marshall Street in North Adams, open 11am - 5pm Wednesdays through Mondays; closed Tuesdays through spring 2015. Tickets can also be charged by phone by calling 413.662.2111 during box office hours or purchased on-line at massmoca.org. All events are held rain or shine.

Sponsorship

This event is sponsored by the Porches Inn at MASS MoCA.

Images

High-resolution images of MASS MoCA's Spring 2015 events are available through this link:

<http://bit.ly/1ByVwVx>.

About MASS MoCA

MASS MoCA is one of the world's liveliest (and largest) centers for making and enjoying today's most important art, music, dance, theater, film, and video. Hundreds of works of visual and performing art have been created on its 19th-century factory campus during fabrication and rehearsal residencies, making MASS MoCA among the most productive sites in the country for the creation and presentation of new art. More platform than box, MASS MoCA strives to bring to its audiences art experiences that are fresh, engaging, and transformative.

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MASS MoCA's galleries are open 11am to 5pm every day except Tuesdays. The Hall Art Foundation's Anselm Kiefer exhibition is open seasonally, through November 30. Gallery admission is \$18 for adults, \$16 for veterans and seniors, \$12 for students, \$8 for children 6 to 16, and free for children 5 and under. Members are admitted free year-round. For additional information, call 413.662.2111 x1 or visit massmoca.org.

Additional

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