

# RHIANNON



**A fabled underground figure in vocal jazz, Rhiannon turns improvisation into performance art... With a soft, supple voice and a range that climbs to the sky, she shows what heights jazz singing can reach when it combines disciplined musicianship with utter fearlessness.**  
**TIME OUT NEW YORK**

## WORKSHOPS

Rhiannon is a vocal artist with a vision of music as a vehicle for innovation, healing, transformation and social change. A vibrant, gifted singer, performance artist, composer and master teacher, Rhiannon has been bringing her unique and potent blend of jazz, world music, improvisation and storytelling to audiences for four decades. She gives singing workshops around the world, at her home in Hawaii, Leo Nani Farm, and via Skype.

### **ALL THE WAY IN INTERNATIONAL**

Rhiannon's annual mastery level program. Three week-long sessions held in three locations over the course of a year. 2014 sessions were held in Hawaii, Amsterdam and Rome. 2015/2016 sessions will be taught in West Marin, CA, Hawaii and Montreal. This work includes collaborations with guest artists, culminating performances and community outreach.

### **MELE A HAKUWALE KONA COAST, HAWAII**

Rhiannon's advanced improv retreat for 18 skilled improvisors with strong, committed vocal lives. Each year singers come from far-flung parts of the earth and are bonded by their lifetime devotion to music and desire to create community. Singing circles are a combination of improvisation, song form, technique, and intuitive development.

### **INTERMEDIATE TO ADVANCED VOCAL IMPROVISATION WORKSHOPS** *Limit 20 singers*

This three to seven day masterclass for intermediate and advanced singers will deepen your improvisational vocabulary and practice using poly-rhythm, harmony, physical movement, solo work, small ensemble exercises and group collaborations from her recent book, *Vocal River: The Skill and Spirit of Improvisation*. Rhiannon will guide you in the vibrant creation of improvised music in a circle of other committed singers so that our work can go deep and strong, teaching us to stay awake and present in every moment. Beautiful musical and life lessons learned.

### **CIRCLE SONG WORKSHOP ALL SINGERS WELCOME**

Circle Singing is as old as song, as simple as call and response, teaching blend, deep listening, collaboration, dynamics, texture and rhythm. Join Rhiannon and sing your part of the circle, a form popularized by Bobby McFerrin and honed by Rhiannon in 35 years of working together. Experience the joy of singing in community.

### **BEGINNER'S WORKSHOP VOCAL IMPROVISATION**

Find your place in the world of song and invention. Working alone, in pairs, and in ensemble, meld intuition and invention with skill and heart. Strengthen harmony and rhythm, vocal tone, texture, and technique. Sing your way back to your authentic voice.

*"Rhiannon is a LIGHTNING BOLT. The charge is continuous, illuminating, and revitalizing."*

**- Susan Lachmann, NPR - Women on Air**

## CONCERTS

Rich and complex, direct and inspiring. From her stellar collaborations with the all-women jazz ensemble *Alive!* to a cappella ensemble *SoVoSo'* to Bobby McFerrin and *Voicestra* to her groundbreaking solo and ensemble performances, Rhiannon has paved a unique path as an independent artist. Current concert offerings include: solo evenings, duo (with pianist Andy Emler or TIm Ray), trio (*SPONTANEOUS*: with Alex Acuna on percussion and drum set, Abraham Laboriel on electric basses and Otmaro Ruiz on piano and keyboards - or guest pianist Jetro daSilva), or completely improvised vocal trio concerts with long-time collaborators and friends Joey Blake and David Worm: *WeBe3*.

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## ABOUT VOCAL RIVER

“Rhiannon is incredibly brilliant and fun. I trust her musical instincts completely. A fellow graduate of MSU (Making Stuff Up) and a member of Voicestra since the beginning, she’s one of my very favorite people to improvise with. I’m so glad she’s finally taken the time to document her thoughtful, heartfelt, inspired approach. Delve in deeply!

- Bobby McFerrin



### VOCAL RIVER:

#### The Skill and Spirit of Improvisation

Rhiannon’s story of passionate commitment to music—especially vocal improvisation—takes us through the twists and turns of her life, from a young girl discovering singing on her family’s Missouri River farm to internationally acclaimed artist and full circle as she combines farming and art on Hawaii Island. In *Vocal River*, Rhiannon reveals the skill and spirit of improvisation—both onstage and in daily life—for singers, musicians, artists and anyone interested in combining the creative aspects that touch all our lives. The book is also a meticulous guide to Rhiannon’s methods of teaching improvisation featuring thirty-three detailed exercises that bring us into the circle of music where, step by step, we learn about blend, collaboration, soloing, listening, skill, faith and generosity. *Vocal River* is the culmination of Rhiannon’s long and celebrated career as an international performer and teacher. In it she shares her exuberance, her craft, and her fresh insights into the dimensions and gifts of improvisation.

Join Rhiannon  
at Omega  
Annual August  
circlesinging  
gathering with  
Bobby McFerrin  
and friends. Visit  
[rhiannonmusic.com](http://rhiannonmusic.com)  
for more information  
on Rhiannon’s  
workshops.

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