

Jenny Evans 50 years singing jazz!

Jenny Evans – an established name in jazz in Germany and internationally!

In 2025, the British singer will have been flying her jazz flag for 50 dazzling years. This extraordinary continuity is due not only to her voice, but also to the emotionally nuanced performance of each of her songs, be they jazz standards, other musical genres or her own works.

Her ability to interpret songs is based on a true feeling for text and melody - it is no coincidence that as an author, actress, studio speaker and lyricist Jenny Evans sees herself as a “woman of words”. Her artistic versatility was nurtured in the inspiring environment of London theatres and classical concerts. Jenny's interest in early music, especially baroque music was an unusual preference for an adolescent in the Swinging Sixties! In the mid-1970s Jenny came to Munich to study linguistics. “There was live music everywhere,” she remembers. However, her singing here wasn't limited to the university choir for long.

She soon became a sought-after guest singer in the numerous jazz clubs in vibrant Munich-Schwabing at the time “and the jazz ball in my life started rolling,” says the artist. Even then she wanted to perform good music and she soon founded her own band, “Old Socks, New Shoes” and often got five gigs a week. At that time, the jazz scene in Munich still made that possible. In 1981 German jazz legend, drummer Freddie Brocksieper got to know of the young singer and from then on regularly engaged her and brought her together with outstanding musicians. She learned from scratch how to use head arrangements on stage and improvise - both key characteristics of jazz. Thus Jenny's further career as a jazz singer developed.

In 1985 she opened the club that would permanently make her a protagonist of the Munich arts scene - “Jennys Place” in Munich-Schwabing. Although it was very small Jenny quickly managed to compensate for this by booking good musicians. Word got around quickly! Apart from that the club was open till 3 a.m. which is rare in Munich and also attracted international clientele from art, culture, film and music, often artists who had just been on Munich's stages themselves and were now stopping by for a nightcap with their colleagues. Back then, Jenny's Place was considered “The place to be” in the Munich scene, with its namesake as the dazzling figurehead in front of and on the club stage.

The fact that Jenny continued to pursue acting at the same time ultimately led to that iconic snapshot in 1986 in which Inspector Schimanski passionately kisses Jenny in her bar at the end of the crime series episode “Spielverderber”. In this merging of real life and fiction the film character Jenny meets her real alter ego, the jazz singer and club owner Jenny Evans. And as her club was used as the location it was immortalized in the TV song of the same name “Jenny's Place”. However, in 1989 the club was already “history” again while Jenny turned to more profitable artistic activities.

She devoted the next few decades to worldwide tours, both as a jazz singer and as a theatre actress and also became an established studio speaker for English-language recordings. There were numerous gigs and prestigious company gala performances. Although jazz is not one of the mainstream musical genres, the singer still manages to appeal to an audience far beyond the die-hard jazz clientele, thanks to her refined and

at the same time glamorous performances and she became renowned for exciting cross-over projects.

Journalist Tobias Becker wrote about Jenny's CD NUAGES: "*Jenny Evans is probably the only jazz singer to date who manages to combine songs from Carl Orff's Carmina Burana via John Dowland (1563-1626) with George Harrison's "Within You Without You" in a programme so organically as if such a dance across styles and centuries were the most natural thing in the world.*" Her love of different styles and stunning arrangements is also reflected in the musical range of the 13 CDs she has released since 1987 with changing line-ups and themes.

Her anniversary concert 2025 marks a key moment in Jenny Evans's life when she made her first appearance as a jazz singer 50 years ago! That jazz in Munich is still a vibrant part of the arts scene is not least thanks to the quality of Jenny Evans's work and her consistently high musical standards!

Jenny Evans will be celebrating this milestone with a gala concert at the Silbersaal of the Deutsches Theater on November 20, 2025.