



# About Karen Mason

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Karen Mason has starred on Broadway, Off-Broadway, television, and recording and “has few peers when it comes to ripping the roof off with her amazing voice that knows no bounds!” (TheatreScene.net) The recipient of the 2019 MAC Lifetime Achievement Award, she is a 14-time MAC Award winner and has won the MAC Award for Major Female Vocalist of the Year for six consecutive years. Her highly acclaimed recordings include her newest single, “Let The Music Play.” She has also won the 2006 Nightlife Award for Major Female Vocalist and has three Bistro Awards.

## THEATER

Karen starred in **CHASING RAINBOWS: THE ROAD TO OZ** at Papermill Playhouse as Kay Koverman. She starred in the North American premiere tour of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s **LOVE NEVER DIES**, playing Madame Giry to standing ovations.

On Broadway, she garnered rave reviews starring as The Queen of Hearts in **WONDERLAND** and she originated the role of Tanya in Abba’s **MAMMA MIA!** For her portrayal of Tanya, Ms. Mason was awarded a 2002 Drama Desk nomination as Best Actress. Her other leading roles include Norma Desmond in **SUNSET BOULEVARD** as Standby to Glenn Close, Betty Buckley, and Elaine Paige, which she performed to critical acclaim and standing ovations on Broadway and in Los Angeles for three years; Velma von Tussel in the final Broadway company of **HAIRSPRAY**; “Monotony” singer, Mazeppa in **JEROME ROBBINS’ BROADWAY**; Rosalie in **CARNIVAL** (another Drama Desk nomination); plus featured roles in Broadway’s **TORCH SONG TRILOGY**; and **PLAY ME A COUNTRY SONG**.

Karen won the Outer Critics Circle Award for her performance in **AND THE WORLD GOES ‘ROUND**, and starred Off-Broadway in her own show **KAREN MASON SINGS BROADWAY, BEATLES AND BRIAN**. In New York, Karen starred in one-woman musical about Dorothy Parker **YOU MIGHT AS WELL LIVE** and her autobiographical one-woman show, **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**.

In regional theater, Karen starred in the first National Tour of **A CHRISTMAS STORY** as Miss Shields, in the world premiere of the stage production of **WHITE CHRISTMAS**, (playing the Rosemary Clooney role at St. Louis Muni Opera), **WONDERLAND** (at The Straz Theatre, Tampa PAC), **SIDE BY SIDE BY SONDHEIM** (Coconut Grove Playhouse in Florida), **GYPSY** (Sundance Theatre in California), the world premiere of **ONE TOUGH COOKIE** (Apple Tree Theatre in Chicago), **HEARTBEATS** (Goodspeed Opera House in NY) and **COMPANY** (Huntington Theatre in Boston).



# About Karen Mason (cont.)

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## CONCERTS & CLUBS

Karen has headlined Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Birdland NYC, 54 Below, Feinstein's at The Regency, Rainbow & Stars, Cabaret at The Orinda, The Algonquin, Arci's Place, The Supper Club and The Ballroom in NYC; The Cinegrill and the UCLA/ASCAP Concert Series in Los Angeles; The Plush Room in San Francisco; and Davenport's in Chicago, among many others!

She has shared concert stages with Michael Feinstein, Jerry Herman, Chita Rivera, Luciano Pavarotti, Rosemary Clooney, Liza Minnelli, and John Kander & Fred Ebb, among others. Karen has given concerts in the United Kingdom, Sweden, Brazil, Scotland, Tokyo and Osaka. Her starring symphonic performances include The Long Beach Symphony Orchestra with Maestro Michael Berkowitz, The Philly Pops with Peter Nero, The New York Pops with Skitch Henderson, The Oklahoma Philharmonic with Joel Levine, the premier performance of The Chicagoland Pops, The Indianapolis Philharmonic, and the St. Louis Symphony John McDaniel.

(COMPREHENSIVE LIST BELOW)

Recordings include her newest and eighth release, **AND ALL THAT JAZZ**, the songs of John Kander & Fred Ebb...with liner notes by John Kander, and voted the winner of Broadway World's 2024 Award for Best Commercial Recording! Her other highly acclaimed recordings include her newest single, **LET THE MUSIC PLAY**, written by Paul Rolnick and David Friedman; **IT'S ABOUT TIME**, which includes the Award-winning title-track written by Paul Rolnick and Shelly Markham, a beautifully inspired anthem for Marriage Equality.; her 2009 MAC Award-winning **RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW**, 2005's **THE SWEETEST NIGHTS**, the MAC Award-winning **WHEN THE SUN COMES OUT**, as well as three other CD's: **CHRISTMAS! CHRISTMAS! CHRISTMAS!**, recorded live at the Laurie Beechman Theatre; **BETTER DAYS**, featuring songs by her longtime composer/arranger, Brian Lasser (including the 1998 Emmy Award-winning song "Hold Me"); and **NOT SO SIMPLY BROADWAY**. Karen has been featured on the soundtrack of the **original cast CD of Wonderland; Jeffrey (Varese Sarabande)**, the **studio cast recording of Wonderful Town** (JAY Records), the **original cast album of And The World Goes Round** (RCA Victor), **The Child In Me, Vol. 1** (Harbinger Records), and **Lost in Boston II (Varese Sarabande)**.

## TELEVISION, FILM, & VOICEOVER

In Ryan Murphy's **"HALSTON"** on Netflix, Karen played Mrs. Marsh opposite Ewan McGregor. She has had multiple appearances on **"Law & Order: SVU."** Karen's voice can be heard on commercials on TV and radio, including Quest Bake Shop and one of the legendary Super Bowl commercials for Butterfinger!

“Could it be possible that the wondrous Karen Mason could outdo herself on the cabaret stage? Anyone present for her recent triumph with 30...and Counting would have to vote a resounding “yes!” “

*Marilyn Lester/NiteLifeExchange*

“Mason gathered intensity, breathing the lyric, devouring it, moving ever outward, in a performance that brought down the house!”

*Sarah Downs/The Front Row Center*

“Karen Mason has been collaborating with MD/pianist Christopher Denny for 30 years, her director (and writer of special material), Barry Kleinbort, almost that long. They were lucky to find one another. We were lucky they found one another.”

*Alix Cohen/Woman Around Town*

“An American idol! A rarity – intense and intimate!”

*New York Times*

“Fierce emotion! Intense and intimate! She creates a mood of wild expectation. Hearty affability... the kind of person you sense you could trust to be a loyal friend! A rarity!”

*New York Times*

“Ms. Mason is that rare artist who combines talent, skillful musicality, deep emotional availability and a great measure of trust in her improvisational, inspired self. Wow! This is a great Christmas show.”

“Karen Mason is magic—pure magic.”

*Susan Hasho, Times Square Chronicles*

“Christmas never sounded smarter. Or wittier. Or more whimsical. You’d expect as much from Karen Mason, a savvy cabaret artist who brings more brainy introspection and worldly wise perspectives to American song than many of her peers.” “Karen Mason’s wickedly wise ‘Christmas, Christmas, Christmas!’”

*Howard Reich, Chicago Tribune*

“No one in cabaret walks the line between humor and sorrow, joy and despair as nimbly as Karen Mason. She can switch emotional tone from one to the next in a flash, before the listener fully realizes what has happened.” “Karen Mason reveals ‘Secrets of the Divas,’”

*Howard Reich, Chicago Tribune*



# Contact/Booking

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