

Chieko Honda Biography

Born in Osaka, Japan, studied classical piano music and trained in opera singing at a young age.

She was exposed to different genres of music while she worked at the acclaimed Osaka Blue Note.

In 2003, Chieko moved to New York City, and under the direction of Bettina Sheppard, studied voice technique and diction. Whilst she attended Barry Harris' workshops, Chieko learned new techniques and expanded her jazz repertoire which led her to sing at various open mic nights.

During 2007, Chieko recorded her first demo and started performing Samba / Bassa Nova music in venues throughout NYC with various jazz ensembles.

Additionally to her own performances, Chieko recorded as a featured vocalist for The Bill Jacobs Ensemble's "WE" ('08), she made her acting debut in the off-off Broadway show "Crooner" ('07), and was chorus member in "Traumnovela." She returned to her classical roots as a member of the Chromatic Voice Exchange ('10).

Her first full recording album "Aquarelle" launched in November of 2015 and it's in the process of being promoted to the public soon.

As lead vocalist and songwriter of "Os Clavelitos" (a 6-piece American Samba Band, formed by two Americans, two Brazilians, and two Japanese musicians) Chieko composed her music influenced by Brazilian rhythms, harmonies, melodies, and lyrics in both English and Portuguese. Which led to the contribution of three songs towards their debut album, "Arriving," (peaked at #1 on the Roots Music Report Top 50 World Chart) which can be purchased online in iTunes, Amazon, and CD Baby.

Chieko has had the pleasure of performing at acclaimed venues such as, The Bitter End, The Slipper Room, Rockwood Music Hall, Cutting Room, St. Albans Jazz Festival, Stereo Terra Music Festival to name a few.

Chieko continues to perform in venues throughout NYC and can be contacted for business opportunities and collaborations at ch@chiekohonda.com