

BIOGRAPHY



Acclaimed singer, guitarist, composer and bandleader **Howard Fishman's** exuberant, spontaneous, and unvarnished music has made him a favorite of audiences and critics alike. Ever-evolving and increasingly difficult to pin down, Fishman filters a deep passion for New Orleans jazz, gritty pop, fervent gospel and open-hearted country music through a completely original aesthetic to create a sound entirely his own.

Fishman began his musical career on the streets of New Orleans and in the subways of New York before making his debut at The Algonquin Oak Room in 1999. He has since headlined in major venues both in the States and abroad, including The Steppenwolf Theatre, The Blue Note, NJPAC, The Pasadena Playhouse, Joe's Pub, The Bottom Line, and Le Petit Journal in Paris. He made his Lincoln Center debut in February, 2007, when he was presented as part of this season's American Songbook series. Fishman has also been a frequent NPR guest, making feature-length appearances on "Fresh Air" with Terry Gross, "World Cafe" with David Dye, "The Leonard Lopate Show" and "Soundcheck" with John Schaefer, among others.

Although primarily known as a songwriter, Fishman began his career immersed in early jazz, folk, blues, and country music, creating a bedrock of knowledge of American roots forms that, when applied to his pop, classical and experimental leanings, helped forge the style for which he is known today (and which critics are, universally, at a loss to describe).

Howard Fishman has released six critically acclaimed CDs. Three more are slated for release in 2009: the first recording of his "Biting Fish Brass Band," featuring an eclectic array of material arranged for the traditional New Orleans street brass sound; a second CD will feature Fishman's "Romania Project," a song cycle based on travels through rural Eastern Europe that borrows from Balkan and Gypsy sounds; a third CD is a collection of new Fishman originals. A fourth new CD, featuring Fishman's acclaimed original quartet performing the music of Hoagy Carmichael, has also been recorded and awaits release. His original oratorio "we are destroyed," featuring Fishman's chamber quartet plus four singer/actors, continues to be programmed, most recently at the Abrons Arts Center in NYC in April 2009. Howard Fishman maintains a full-time touring schedule and has garnered a devoted following worldwide.

Howard Fishman currently resides in Brooklyn, N.Y. and Chester, CT

www.howardfishman.com