

## Grammy-nominated pianist plays at Steinway Gallery

By: Susan M. Botich

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— Judy Carmichael, jazz pianist

More Information

### Judy Carmichael

o **When:** 6 p.m. Feb. 17; a reception takes place at 7 p.m.

o **Where:** Steinway Piano Gallery, 500 E. Moana Lane in Reno

### Get tickets:

Tickets may be purchased at the Steinway Piano Gallery or by calling 775-829-0600

Grammy-nominated jazz pianist Judy Carmichael will be performing for the first time in Northern Nevada at the Steinway Piano Gallery. Audiences familiar with Carmichael's style of playing will eagerly look forward to an energetic, fun-filled musical excursion.

The concert will be held at 6 p.m. Feb. 17 at the Steinway Piano Gallery, located at 500 E. Moana Lane, between Kietzke Lane and S. Virginia St., in Reno. Tickets are available at Steinway Piano Gallery.

“I really play to a diverse group of people,” Carmichael said in a biography, “because I find that lots of people are drawn to this kind of music. They don't have to be jazz fans specifically, they just have to be people who like great music and come to the concerts to have a fun time, which is really what my focus is.”

Carmichael is known throughout the world for her perfected technique of the stride style of jazz piano, which earned her the nickname “Stride” by jazz great Count Basie. Basie nicknamed her “Stride” as an acknowledgment of the command with which she plays this technically and physically demanding jazz piano style.

“It’s called stride because the left hand is making a striding motion over the bass end of the keys,” Carmichael said.

A native of California, Carmichael moved to New York in the early 1980s and has maintained a busy concert schedule throughout the world ever since, including stops in Portugal, Brazil and Singapore. In 1992, Carmichael was the first jazz musician sponsored by the United States government to tour China.

“I love performing live,” Carmichael said, “because there’s that on-the-edge aspect of it, which is what jazz is all about. It really is a conversation between me and the audience. And I love that.” The New York Times has called Carmichael, “astounding, flawless and captivating,” as well as, “an exhilarating positive pianist with a virtually flawless technique.”

Other reviews have similarly been flattering. The Washington Post praised Carmichael as having, “a fresh, dynamic interpretation of her own.” The New Yorker said Carmichael is “a forceful, energetic, fireballing pianist who has no problem winning over an audience.” The San Francisco Examiner proclaimed Carmichael to be, “a major figure in keyboard jazz performance.”

Carmichael has performed in a variety of venues, from Carnegie Hall with Skitch Henderson and the New York Pops, to the Peggy Guggenheim Museum in Venice, Italy, as well as programs with such greats as Joel Grey, Michael Feinstein, Steve Ross and the Smothers Brothers.

Carmichael also has written books on stride piano as well as numerous articles on the subject of jazz. She has served on several panels at the National Endowment for the Arts, and is one of the few jazz pianists honored by the Steinway & Sons Company as an official “Steinway artist.” For those who would like to meet Carmichael in person, she will be available to meet with fans at 5 p.m. Feb. 17 before the concert. She will be available to answer questions and autograph CDs or memorabilia for fans.

The Steinway Piano Gallery is an exclusive Steinway piano dealer for the Northern Nevada area. According to Forbes Magazine, Steinway pianos are a great investment because they go up in value. In fact, over the past 10 years, the retail value of the Steinway concert grand has appreciated nearly 200 percent, according to Forbes. Recent studies have shown that more than 95 percent of the world’s performing concert pianists choose to play Steinway pianos.

Tickets may be purchased at the Steinway Piano Gallery. For more information about Judy Carmichael, call the Steinway Piano Gallery at 829-0600.

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