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"Rachel Z is a consistently adventurous player." LA Times

"To connect with new listeners without selling out or dumbing down, Rachel has found a way to make the age-old piano trio relevant and fresh to younger ears." Jazzreview.com

JAZZ PIANIST RACHEL Z MAKES VOCAL DEBUT ON NEW CHESKY RECORDS RELEASE

Chesky Records is pleased to announce the June 28 release of Grace by Rachel Z. This recording debuts the formidable vocal talents of the acclaimed jazz pianist who was trained as a classical singer from childhood. Grace continues a Rachel Z tradition of combining beautifully crafted original songs with stunningly innovative arrangements of cover songs drawn from the rock and pop worlds.

On Grace Rachel selects songs by U2, Nirvana, Kate Bush, Björk and John Lennon to mix with her own compositions binding the ten tracks of the album with spare arrangements and universal themes encompassing love, pain and growth. The simplicity of a trio consisting of Rachel's piano, long-time collaborator Bobbie Rae's signature drums/percussion and Chris J. Luard on bass, recorded with Chesky's renowned minimalist miking techniques, creates a most intimate environment for such eloquent material.

Rachel Z has toured extensively with Peter Gabriel. She has collaborated heavily with saxophone legend Wayne Shorter on projects including his GRAMMY® Award-Winning album High Life, in which she also served as Musical Director for the supporting tour. Rachel has also performed with Al DiMeola, Larry Coryell, Angela Bofill, Steps Ahead and Stanley Clarke. She is a Manhattan native and a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music. Her trio will tour the US in Summer 2005.