

"An exultant and spacious orchestral power suggests furthermore, that she is on her way to being Aaron Copland's inheritor."
GUARDIAN [UK]

"To call Schneider the most important woman in jazz is missing the point... She is a major composer-period."
TIME MAGAZINE

Maria SCHNEIDER

orchestra/conductor
arranger/composer

OTHER AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

- 2005 GRAMMY Award Best Large Jazz Ensemble
- 7 GRAMMY Nominations for first three releases
- 2005 Jazz Journalist Awards: Best Composer, Best Arranger, Best Large Jazz Ensemble
- 2005 Jazz Journalist Award: Album of the Year
- 2005 DOWNBEAT critics poll: Composer of the Year, Arranger of the Year, Album of the Year
- Nominated twice for the JAZZPAR prize
- Winner of the Choc Award in France.
- 2000 TIME MAGAZINE: Top Ten List inclusive of all genres.
- 2000 BILLBOARD MAGAZINE: Top Ten List

MARIA SCHNEIDER COMMISSIONS

- The Norrbotten Big Band's (Sweden) and Danish Radio Orchestra's commission to arrange and conduct concerts with Toots Thielemans.
- The Metropole Orchestra in Holland.
- Stuttgart Jazz Orchestra in Germany.
- Orchestre National de Jazz in France (Recapitulation)
- Carnegie Hall Jazz Orchestra (El Viento)
- Monterey Jazz Festival (Scenes from Childhood)
- University of Miami Concert Jazz Band (Three Romances)
- Jazz at Lincoln Center (Bulería, Soleá y Rumba)
- Recipient of a Doris Duke Award to compose a dance work (Dissolution) in collaboration with the Pilobolus Dance Group. It was performed with The Maria Schneider Orchestra at the Spoleto Festival and The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.
- Arranged a concert of Ivan Lins' music for Ivan, Toots Thielemans and the Danish Radio Orchestra for an extensive European tour in 2003.
- Spring of 2004 Hunter College commissioned 'Concert in the Garden' and 'Sky Blue.'
- The Los Angeles Philharmonic Association commission 'Aires de Lando' in 2006.
- 2006, commissioned by Dartmouth College, The Music Hall (Portsmouth, NH), The Flynn Theater (Burlington, VT), Penn State University, and U Mass Amherst to write "The Pretty Road."

2008 GRAMMY AWARDS

Best Large Jazz Ensemble
Recording: *Sky Blue*

Best Instrumental
Composition:
Cerulean Skies

2008 DOWNBEAT CRITICS POLL AWARDS

Jazz Album of the Year:
Sky Blue
Big Band of the Year
Composer of the Year
Arranger of the Year

MARIA SCHNEIDER is, first and foremost, a composer who is constantly pushing the boundaries of jazz. As Don Heckman of the LA Times noted "Schneider's [music] reaches toward a significant new level of imagination, making hers the first truly novel approach to big jazz band composition of the new century."

To bring her stunning works to fruition, like Duke Ellington and Gil Evans before her, Maria has pulled together a tight-knit, Grammy Award-winning Orchestra. In fact, more than half of her orchestra members have been with her since she formed her band in 1993, and this mutual admiration and shared intimacy that long-term relationships foster, is evident throughout **SKY BLUE**.

The compositions are more personal, while the performances are burnished with a deep understanding of the music and the composer and of Maria with her musicians. "Maria Schneider's orchestral jazz is about feeling," Ben Ratliff of The New York Times wrote; "like Wayne Shorter, she somehow expresses emotion through tones."

