



**Asaran Earth Trio** is an all-female multinational group of virtuosic musicians and educators. Together they perform folk songs from around the globe as well as original compositions, uniquely arranged for voice and percussion. Their music honors their roots while simultaneously reveling in improvisations and contemporary harmonies.

Asaran's debut album, *Why Should Your Heart Not Dance*, features songs from nine countries in as many different languages. The title track is Boccato's original composition, which features poetry based on C.S.Lewis' writing and rhythmic elements that combine Brazilian grooves with Bulgarian odd meters. The recording was hailed by renowned World Music critics for its "**outstandingly expressive vocals**" (World Music Central), "**spectacular harmonies**" and "**real vocal prowess**" (Songlines).

Since its founding in 2015, Asaran Earth Trio has performed throughout Europe at festivals and venues such as Murszene Festival in Austria, Ördögkatlan, Művészetek Völgye and Babelsound Festivals in Hungary, the Crescendo and Labin Jazz Festivals in Croatia, and the Peperoncino Jazz Festival in Italy, to name a few. In the United States, they have performed at Carnegie Hall's Weill Hall, the International Chopin and Friends Festival in Brooklyn, NY; Cornelia Street Cafe and the first edition of the Peace Summit in NYC, as well as at Club Passim in Cambridge, MA, the Robin Theater in Lansing, MI, the Foundry Hall in South Haven, MI, and Real Art Ways in Hartford, CT.

As a group of dedicated educators, Asaran frequently gives workshops, helping participants find their true musical voices through the learning of ancient melodies and rhythms, and the joy of creating new ones, experimenting and improvising together. With the help of traditional instruments such as the Brazilian zabumba and pandeiro, the Colombian maracas, and the most ancient instrument - the human voice, the trio transforms groups of former strangers into instant musical families, breaking down barriers and holding space for friendship, creativity and unity.

Founded upon a common dream of building communities through music, they sing, clap, play percussion and are known to cause audiences to laugh, cry, sing, dance and shake some groovy shakers. They love to share their music and stories all around the Earth – in festivals, living rooms, theaters. No place is too small or too big for them to fill it with their presence.

## **Anne Boccato (Brazil)**

Anne Boccato is a vocalist, composer, pianist and percussionist born and raised in São Paulo, Brazil. She studied jazz piano at the State University of New York - Purchase College, and began pursuing voice when an injury kept her from playing piano for some time. Through a long rehabilitation process, Anne discovered her passion for “musical wellness”, bringing it to bear on all aspects of her playing and singing. She loves creating strong, energetic grooves while maintaining a feeling of ease and gentle strength, no matter how complex the music may seem on paper.

Anne has been living in the United States for over 10 years - immersed in the arts scene in New York City, teaching piano lessons and performing her own music, as well as collaborating with some wonderful musicians. She founded Asaran Earth Trio out of a desire to reach into our collective history found in tradition, while bringing different influences together to continue writing our stories into the future.

Her aim is to connect people to themselves and to each other through her compositions, be they instrumental or songs sung in Portuguese, English or Spanish. Her love of languages is matched only by her love of watching her students go “aha!” and smile with satisfaction.

## **Artemisz Polonyi (Hungary)**

Artemisz Polonyi is a singer and composer deeply immersed in jazz, folk, and choral music.

She fell in love with singing harmonies (her favorite being the middle voice) during her childhood in Hungary, when she was surrounded by the Kodaly tradition, singing folk songs and choral music.

Currently living in New York City, she gets a kick out of bringing various styles and musical traditions together in her performing and teaching.

These days she mostly sings the highest notes with the professional chorus of Brick Presbyterian Church of NYC, and the Composers/Conductors Choral Collective. She can also be seen singing and playing percussion with her beloved world music group: Asaran Earth Trio.

Artemisz has been pursuing her passion for teaching by leading her voice studio for more than a decade. In her voice and musicianship classes she enjoys helping students find their own unique, beautifully fearless voices.

She considers herself very lucky to be able to bring music and the joy of singing to the public schools of New York City through the Musical Introduction program of the 92Y, and the Students Compose Opera program of the Metropolitan Opera Guild.

## **Lorena del Mar (Spain)**

Lorena del Mar is a vocalist, composer and improviser born in Madrid, Spain. She studied classical piano in her youth and once she discovered jazz music, her passion for vocal music arose. She obtained a bachelor and masters degree at the Royal Conservatorium of The Hague (The Netherlands) in Jazz Vocals. It was during this period that she met one of her singing sisters, Artemisz. They would cross paths again in New York for two years where they wrote and performed music together.

Lorena has always been open to discovering new styles as she believes there's always something new to learn from or give to each music: pop, jazz, afrocuban, improvised, ambient, traditional, choral, electronic, folk among others. She is the lead vocalist of the Spanish folk group Sammy Jankis, the indie jazz group The Delegation, the improvised electronic duo Lor in Pravena and is currently working on a solo looping project.

Aside from performing, Lorena is a passionate voice teacher who believes that singing and improvisation are powerful soul-healing tools.

### **Press Quotes:**

“Like a dream come true!”

KEVIN HAYS

“Celestial voices”

JAZZ TRAIL

“Original music with no clichés and no boundaries - I am a big fan of their work!”

LIONEL LOUEKE

“They perform their spectacular harmonies and scatting with percussive rhythm accompaniment. (...) When they sing traditional songs these women demonstrate their real vocal prowess.”

SONGLINES UK

“A cappella singing shines on its own with three gem-like voices such as these.

(...) This amazing recording epitomizes the idiom 'You could have knocked me over with a feather.' ★★★★★”

OFF-CENTER VIEWS

“Why Should Your Heart Not Dance features outstandingly expressive vocals by Asaran Earth Trio, an ensemble that soulfully explores folk music traditions from various corners of the world.”

WORLD MUSIC CENTRAL

“A special treat (...) the voices harmonize beautifully, and transcend.”

RG MAGAZINE

“The music is beautiful, Why Should Your Heart Not Dance? When listening to these three ladies it will!”

STACCATOFY

"A great way to feel empowered. Three beautiful strong and talented women from different countries, sharing songs from all over the globe, in the most diverse city in the world.”

DANIELE HAGER, FOUNDER, WE SING FOR THE WORLD

### **From Presenters:**

"The Asaran Earth Trio had our audience rapt from the first note sung. Their set was as musically rich as it was joyful and mesmerizing. Can't wait to have them back again!"

MATTHEW SMITH, MANAGING DIRECTOR - CLUB PASSIM

"Our rural community here in the high peaks of the Catskill Mountains was transported by the beauty, originality and humor of these wonderful songs. What a great message for America this collection of international songs brings to us at this time of divisiveness.”

NANCY BARTON, DIRECTOR - PRATTSVILLE ART CENTER

### **From Collaborators:**

“Their infectious joy and capacity to interact with people, I believe, are crucial in bridging the gaps necessary to realize the simplicity of life, its challenges and joys, while seeking solutions to pressing, daily issues. Asaran Earth Trio is a joy to work with and the evening of our collaboration was filled with understanding, empathy and a great deal of entertainment.”

BARBARA KALINA, MULTIMEDIA ARTIST

### **Press Links:**

[Jazz Trail – Review of SAMS benefit concert at Saint Peter’s Church, NYC](#)

[Off-Center Views – album review](#)

[World Music Central - album review](#)

[Rivertowns Enterprise – Article](#)

[RG Magazine – Review of appearance at Carnegie Hall](#)

[Photo gallery of concert at Together Garden in Rome](#)

[Staccatofy - album review](#)

Novilist – Review of concert in Krk, Croatia  
Red Hook Star Revue - Sofar Sounds Performance Review

**Notable Performances:**

Ördögkatlan Festival - Hungary  
Valley of the Arts Festival - Hungary  
Weill Hall - Carnegie Hall - NYC  
Club Passim - Cambridge, MA  
Labin Jazz Festival - Croatia  
International Chopin and Friends Festival - Brooklyn, NY  
Crescendo Music Festival - Croatia  
Centro Culturale Brentonico - Italy  
Teatro O Nariz - Leiria, Portugal  
NY Real Art Ways - Hartford, CT  
Cornelia Street Cafe's VocalFest - NYC  
Foundry Hall - South Haven, MI  
The Peace First Summit at Florence Gould Hall - New York, NY  
The Robin Theatre - Lansing, MI  
The Folk Project's Acoustic Getaways - Stony Point, NY  
Babelsound Festival - Balatonboglár, Hungary  
Murszene Festival - Graz, Austria  
Peperoncino Jazz Festival - Calabria, Italy

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