

Cassandra Wilson

Wednesday, June 24, 2026 at 7pm

This is the 1,538th concert in Koerner Hall

Cassandra Wilson, vocals

Brandon Ross, guitar

Lonnie Plaxico, bass

Kevin Breit, guitar

Grégoire Maret, harmonica

Jeffrey Haynes, percussion

Chris Eddleton, drums

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It was 31 years ago, back in 1995, that jazz singer Cassandra Wilson began recording *New Moon Daughter*. That impactful offering, which artfully blended jazz and Americana, would have a profound effect on Wilson's career, catapulting her to a new echelon of fame in the jazz world and earning her a Grammy Award for Best Jazz Vocal Performance. Suddenly, with the release of her second Blue Note album with producer Craig Street (following 1993's *Blue Light 'til Dawn*), Wilson was being hailed as the new empress of jazz singers, mentioned in the same breath as such iconic vocalists as Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, and Betty Carter. In a rave review, *DownBeat* declared *New Moon Daughter* an instant classic and awarded it five stars. The reviewer praised Wilson's "warmly inviting and authentic voice" and her "genius" in reinterpreting the Great American Songbook.

Intimate, sensuous, and swinging, *New Moon Daughter* also finds Wilson wrapping her smoky, honey-toned voice around jazz, blues, and pop classics, including Son House's mournful "Death Letter," Hoagy Carmichael's classic "Skylark," and a tender, heartbreaking cover of Hank Williams's "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry." And they are all delivered with Wilson's signature all-knowing sense of cool allure.

Cassandra Wilson is making her Royal Conservatory debut.