



Melinda Rodriguez is an emerging jazz artist. Since High School, she has been a 4-time Downbeat Music Award winner and a two-time YoungArts winner. She has performed at a number of festivals including The Miami Downtown Jazz Festival, The Litchfield Jazz Festival, and has traveled as far as Bermuda and Japan to perform in other festivals.

Ms. Rodriguez has traveled to perform alongside Michael Feinstein, Fred Hersch, Cyrille Aimée, Jane Monheit and worked frequently with jazz greats such as Kevin Mahogany. Melinda was the 2019 1st place winner in the International Ella Fitzgerald Jazz Vocal Competition. Melinda also debuted with the Legendary Count Basie Jazz Orchestra in 2019.

From 2018-2020, Melinda served as a teaching artist at The University of Illinois, Millikin University and Illinois Wesleyan University, while pursuing her Master's Degree in performance. In early 2020, Melinda debuted at legendary clubs across the country such as Birdland Jazz Club in New York and Andy's Jazz Club in Chicago, IL. She was also the winner of the Ben Tucker Jazz Award and Johnny Mercer Award in the prestigious American Traditions Vocal Competition held annually in Savannah, GA.

Melinda Rodriguez was contestant on Season 17 of NBC's hit singing show, *The Voice*, where she worked closely with Kelly Clarkson. Upon re-entering a post-covid world, Melinda was the People's Choice Award winner in the 2022 American Traditions Vocal competition and debuted with The Asheville Symphony Orchestra. She spent her post-covid years as a touring performer and educator in the greater Miami area.

In 2023, Melinda has become the first ever vocalist for the US Army Blues and leads the band as the premier commercial vocalist. In Fall 2023, Ms. Rodriguez relocated to Washington D.C. to serve her country.