ELEANOR DUBINSKY

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

Pruis Hall
Saturday, November 20 at 7:30 p.m.
One of NPR Alt. Latino’s four 2018 picks for New Spring Music, Eleanor Dubinsky is a “multi-lingual musician who can capture the emotions and soul of a community in song.” (Felix Contreras). A vocalist, guitarist and cellist, Dubinsky’s music lives at the tender edge where jazz, world, and pop sensibilities meet emotionally forthright songwriting.

Born in St. Louis, MO and based in New York City, her sound expresses both her mid-western roots and the formative time she has spent in South America, Western and Central Europe, and most recently, Portugal and Cape Verde. The polyglot composes in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, bringing her linguistic and cultural literacy into dynamic compositions exploring the fragile links between human emotions and responsibility.

Eleanor takes to heart her chosen roles as composer, bandleader, cultural interpreter and activist. Her lyrics about self-discovery as well as issues of immigration and contemporary politics create a lively, inviting sound that builds bridges between diverse audiences.

eleanordubinsky.com
In the end, it was the people. Singer, polyglot songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist Eleanor Dubinsky was drawn to Lisbon after years of travel and exploration, but the music she made there surprised her.

“It’s about artists, not about music that happens to be from particular countries. I had some preconceptions going into this album, but I learned that there are many more layers to these worlds than I imagined...It’s about a collaborative work from a group of artists with something to offer that spans genres and geographies.”

On Soft Spot of My Heart (release: March 30, 2018), Dubinsky leans into the vulnerabilities and delicate moments we all face in relationship to one another, drawing strength and inspiration from musical friendships she forged in Lisbon and New York. Spurred by the “awakened heart” approach of Tibetan Buddhist teacher Pema Chodron, Dubinsky treads lightly through the thickets of affection and attachment, discovering a grace in the elegant melodies and Lus-African sway her collaborators bring to the table.

“The soft spot is about holding with deep compassion all the stuff we run away from. This helps us love others better. If this process feels painful, I have found I need to grow my brain to contain more, more of others’ perspectives and stories and needs. I try to carry this understanding into my songwriting,” explains Dubinsky. “You have to continuously expand your understanding of what a human being can do, of what they can be.”

By finding a artful dialog with musicians from New York, Brazil, Cape Verde, and Portugal, Dubinsky urges all of us to embrace that sweet spot and hold the world there.

Coffee & Cabernet Upcoming Events:

Skerryvore
January 13

Collison of Rhythm
January 20

Hooray for Hollywood
February 12
Thank you

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