

AMERICA'S VOCAL COACH

Teri Danz
YOUWORLD MUSIC

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ABOUT TERI DANZ

Teri Danz, America's Vocal Coach, and Club hit recording artist, is a leading innovator in pop vocal performance. A pop vocal expert and producer, she lends her real-world experience and specific pop techniques to take up-and-comers, as well as established artists, to the next level live and in the studio. A testament to her training methods, three of her students hit the Top 20 on the Billboard Charts in 2019.

Named a Top Vocal Coach by Backstage Magazine & Winner of A Global Excellence Award (Vocal Coach of the Year 2020), she shared her pioneering techniques in her book, "Vocal Essentials for the Pop Singer" for Hal Leonard Corporation and has written articles for Music Connection, Electronic Musician, and many more. Her video, "Pop Singing Secrets," demonstrates her unique approach

VOCAL COACHING

ARTIST
DEVELOPMENT

PERFORMANCE COACHING

LIVE AND IN THE
STUDIO

VOCAL PRODUCING

ALL LEVELS

Girl Underground

What do these folks have in common? They are all indie artists who have received a big thumbs-up from **Womanrock.com**, an inspired gathering place for talented women doing it on their own.

Compiled by Brenda Kahn

Teri Danz

Gardens in the Concrete (2003)

Her Instruments: Vocals, guitar, keyboards

Her Sound: Kurt Cobain makes a cocktail for Gwen Stefani on Sunset

Her Story: Teri Danz woke up one day and knew she wanted to be a singer. "I knew I needed to be a singer when the pain of keeping it down was more than the pain of letting it up," Teri promptly moved to San Francisco and started her career in music. She tested her vocals against several rock band projects, but it was the 1991 release of a 12" dance record, *Didn't Mean to Fall in Love*, that drew the attention of producers and DJs across the country.

"It was a great moment in time," says Teri. "I've always been a rocker with a singer/songwriter undercurrent, so for me it was an amazing opportunity. I happened to look into it."

After a painful breakup, Teri left San Francisco for Los Angeles.



Teri Danz (left) rocks out with her band at the Shredfest 2006, California Tower Records



Chops Shop - Vocals

Let's face it, singing is a hard business. It's not just about having a great voice, it's about having a great career. It's about having a great life. It's about having a great sound. It's about having a great story. It's about having a great connection. It's about having a great community. It's about having a great future. It's about having a great now.

LETTING THE SPIRIT SPEAK THROUGH YOUR VOICE

By Teri Danz

Your voice, truthfully spoken, can move people to tears or break hope and inspiration. Through singing, your voice becomes a bright instrument connecting you to others and to something higher. But to let your spirit shine, you must believe in yourself as a singer, and you must have something to say. Without belief, the speaker becomes empty, the singing soulless. You are the messenger. Don't judge, overthink, or criticize your performance while you're doing it. Stay present, critical thoughts, and let your spirit be in charge.

If spirit is the goal, then vocal technique is the footnote. Vocal training gives you the tools to sing from your heart on a technical level, which, in turn, builds confidence and allows you to effectively convey emotion. For example, one of my students has been working on the song "I Can Only Imagine" by McBride. Singer Ben McFarland may be "feeling" the emotion, but he expresses it through solid technique—phrasing, variations, acrobatics, and timing.

Connecting to a song emotionally is all about focus, and being present in the moment. If you can imagine yourself speaking to someone with feeling, then you can control a few minor technical details without compromising an emotional delivery. "In praise and worship circles, intent can be more important than technique," says worship leader Troy Lee of Oikos Community Church. "It's about community."

However, many singers tend to "lose" their technique when they connect emotionally to a song. This is usually because their technique is not solid enough to sustain itself through very strong waves of emotion. The antidote to this is to practice, practice, practice. It is worth the time and energy if your foundation is not solid, your technique can fall apart with any sort of pressure—excitement, stress, environmental distraction, individual mistakes, and so on. Even gigging musicians make the mistake of not effectively rehearsing their instrument. The only trick is to hold yourself to a higher standard of excellence—when it takes more time. The payoff in the quality, emotion, and artistry of the song is worth the effort.

Teri Danz (teridanz.com) is a Los Angeles recording artist/producer and vocal coach.

Tips for Inspired Singing

- Focus on the message. This is the spirit to speak through you.
- Let go of judgment. The message you yourself want to resonate, believing in your abilities, the song.
- Develop vocal technique. If you control your voice, then you can sing from your heart.
- Warm up each and every day. This helps you connect the words and the music.
- Work the song line by line. Each should build upon the last.
- Rehearse your song. Rehearse face or a place and put you in the frame of mind for the song.
- Check "intent" as a "key" to the emotion and energy where you sing.
- Use a tape recorder to hear the sound, control, observe mistakes, practice some more.
- Take care of your body. It's the instrument you sing with. So keep it in the best of health.
- Relax. Trust that your spirit and your voice are one and the same.

WHAT MAKES ME UNDENIABLE ENTHUSIASM, PASSION, LIVED EXPERIENCE, INDUSTRY KNOW-HOW, PROVEN SUCCESS IN DEVELOPING AND TRAINING SINGERS/ARTISTS, POP VOCAL EXPERT & PERFORMANCE COACH

TERI DANZ NAMED 'VOCAL COACH OF THE YEAR'

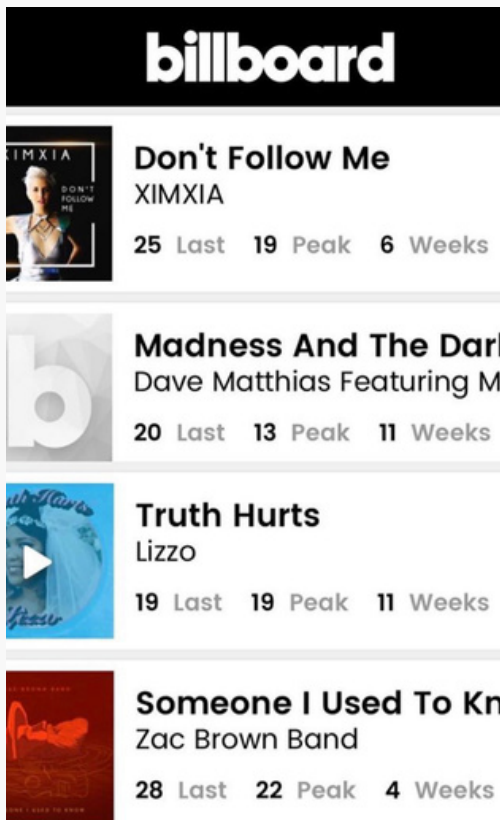
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A classically trained musician, Danz's artist credits include the '90s club hit, "Didn't Mean to Fall in Love" on Twilight Records, Tower records in-stores, recordings with Buddy Halligan (Ray Charles, Anita Baker), Gerry "The Gov" Brown (Alicia Keyes, Tina Turner) among others. She received national press in Women Who Rock Magazine and rave reviews of her singing, songwriting, and performance.

"If you are a professional in the music business, then you know the importance of having a great support team. Teri has provided that for artists I have worked with, and the results have proven that she knows how to guide a vocalist to give their best performance, in the studio as well as live. Having the benefit of her knowledge and experience can move you forward in finding your voice," Matt Forger, Producer/Engineer/Mixer (Michael Jackson and Paul McCartney).

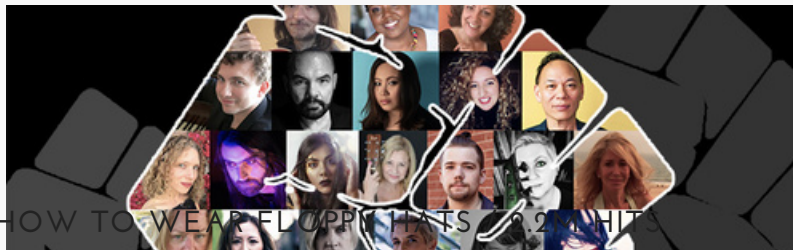
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WHAT MAKES ME EXCEPTIONAL
**COMMITMENT TO
 EXCELLENCE**
**HIGH INDUSTRY
 STANDARDS**
TOP PROFESSIONAL



Danz recently lent her vocals to "People Are People" Charity single and video by Rising Voices produced by Chris Wirsig.



MICHAEL GEROW

**STUDENTS &
 COACHING
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