



**The Band**

## Jennifer Cutting's OCEAN ORCHESTRA

What do you get when you cross Scottish and Irish jigs with a rock and roll rhythm section; power-pop and classical symphonic themes with spine-tingling electronics? You get OCEAN, the intoxicating musical cocktail from genre-bending composer/bandleader Jennifer Cutting. Cutting directs an all-star ensemble of the Washington, D.C.-area's favorite Celtic musicians, ranging in size from an unplugged trio to a 7-piece acoustic-electric big band. The revolving lineup features **Jennifer Cutting** on electronic keyboard and accordions; **Lisa Moscatiello** on vocals, whistle, and acoustic guitar; **Zan McLeod** on bouzouki, mandolin, and electric guitar; **Steve Winick** on vocals; **Rico Petruccelli** on electric bass; **Danny Schwartz** on drums; plus regional stars on fiddle and bagpipes.

Alternately ethereal and house-rocking, an OCEAN concert features Cutting's newest electric folk arrangements of traditional tunes and her award-winning original songs. With its buoyant beats and soaring Celtic melodies, OCEAN provides an uplifting soundtrack for traveling hopefully on life's changing seas.

Folk instruments such as button accordion, bagpipes, and fiddle join forces with pulsing electric bass, drums, and electronic keyboard for a sizzling synergy that will appeal to fans of folk, classical, and pop music alike. As much at home in the concert hall as on the festival stage, OCEAN tailors its performances to each kind of audience and venue. Audiences can lose themselves in dreamy reverie, or cut loose and dance to the propulsive beat of electric jigs and reels. It's a marriage of otherworldly Celtic beauty and raw World-Beat energy. There's nothing else like it anywhere...OCEAN is Celtic Music for Ancient Moderns!

For bookings or further information, please contact Jennifer Cutting at:



# Jennifer Cutting Biography

Jennifer Cutting happily blends careers as a bandleader, composer, instrumentalist, ethnomusicologist, and record producer. Blending the formal training of her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in music with a passion for both traditional and electronic musics, she is one of few women bandleaders working in her genre. With her previous band The New St. George, her recent CD *Ocean: Songs for the Night Sea Journey*, and her new live band the Ocean Orchestra, Cutting has pushed the boundaries of “Celtic,” “Folk” and “Folk-Rock,” creating arrangements with sweeping orchestral sounds, shimmering ethereal electronics, authentic traditional instruments and a hard-hitting rhythm section.

Cutting is a composer and bandleader by family tradition and a musician and ethnomusicologist by training. Cutting's two grandfathers, one from England and the other from Ireland, were the inspiration for her natural synthesis of British and Irish musical traditions. Her English grandfather, Ernest Cutting, was a conductor and talent scout for NBC in the 1930s, directing orchestras for Kate Smith, Eddie Cantor, Jack Benny, Jimmy Durante, Fred Astaire, Rudy Vallee, and others. Following in his footsteps, she earned her Bachelor's degree in orchestral and choral conducting. Her passion for folk music was developed through her association with British folk revival leader A.L. Lloyd. In the early 1980s she became Lloyd's last and youngest protégée, soaking up the same blend of scholarship and joy in performance that he had also imparted to members of Fairport Convention and Steeleye Span.

After returning to the U.S., Cutting spent more than ten years as director, composer, arranger and performer with The New St. George, one of the most significant British folk-rock groups on this side of the Atlantic. Following the retirement of that band, Cutting spent years composing, arranging, playing and producing the outstanding and award-winning CD *Ocean: Songs for the Night Sea Journey*, collaborating with international superstars such as Maddy Prior and Peter Knight (Steeleye Span), Dave Mattacks (Fairport Convention) Tony Cuffe (Ossian) and Troy Donockley (Iona [UK]). Now Cutting is back leading a band, interpreting selections from *Ocean* as well as newly composed and arranged material, with her group the Ocean Orchestra.

Cutting is a multiple award winner in all areas of her musical career. The New St. George earned her fifteen WAMMIE awards from the Washington Area Music Association. She won the 2003 WAMMIE for best contemporary folk instrumentalist. Most dramatically, she swept the 2004 WAMMIE awards, winning “Musician of the Year,” “Songwriter of the Year,” and “Best New Artist,” as well as “Album of the Year” and “Best Contemporary Folk Recording” for *Ocean*. She has won two Maryland Governor's Citations for composition, and prestigious national-level songwriting awards, such as First Prize in songwriting at the Merle Watson Festival, and American Songwriter Magazine's Song of the Year.

Cutting is head of SunSign, her own international production company, and has her own studio in Takoma Park, Maryland, just outside Washington DC.

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LISA MOSCATIELLO (Vocals, guitar, whistle) grew up in Arlington, VA. She became involved in the Irish music scene in Washington, DC during the 1980s, and became lead singer for the traditional Irish trio Ceoltóirí (with Sue Richards and Karen Ashbrook). Lisa studied voice at Yale, and toured with the a capella group Redhot and Blue. She was lead singer of Jennifer Cutting's British folk-rock band The New St. George, and has since been a member of Whirligig. Also a solo artist, she has three solo and duo CDs to date.

ZAN McLEOD (guitars, bouzouki, mandolin) is one of the best known guitar and bouzouki players in Irish music. In the 1980s he co-founded the Irish-American group Touchstone with Bothy Band alumnus Triona Ní Dhomhnaill; the group recorded two award-winning albums for Green Linnet Records. His solo album *Highland Soul* earned great critical acclaim. Zan appears on many award-winning albums, and on several film soundtracks, including *The Brothers McMullen*, *Ride with the Devil*, and *Far North*.

JIM EAGAN (fiddle) grew up in Baltimore's renowned Irish traditional music scene. In the late 1990s, Jim toured Ireland, Europe, Canada, and the U.S. with the John Whelan Band. He is currently a member of O'Malley's March, led by Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley, as well as the band "Custom House." Jim is an expert on the tunes of the late Philadelphia fiddler and composer Ed Reavy, and has arranged and recorded an acclaimed album of Reavy's music.

STEPHEN WINICK (vocals) is a singer and an expert lecturer and teacher, with a Ph.D. in Folklore. Steve has been singing folksongs in English and French since his childhood, and studied in the 1990s with renowned Dublin ballad singer Frank Harte. Steve is a member of Ship's Company Chanteymen, performing sea chanteys and historical songs. He was one of the lead performers in the 2008 Washington Revels, which presented the music of Québec. He reprised his role on the 2010 CD release *Le Temps des Fetes*, and in the same year appeared on OCEAN's CD *Song of Solstice*.

TIM CAREY (Highland bagpipes) won first place in his first international competition in Toronto at the age of twelve. His continued dominance in the amateur ranks led to his winning his first professional competition in 1971. He began playing with the Denny and Dunipace Pipe Band in 1966, and was pipe major of the band from 1982 through 1989. It is now known as The City of Washington Pipe Band, and he remains an active member.

RICO PETRUCCELLI (electric bass) is a D.C. native and a veteran musician, having performed with Mary Chapin Carpenter, Chuck Berry and Charlie Byrd, among others. Also an engineer, arranger, composer and producer, he engineered several classic area recordings, including *Shearwater* by Pete Kennedy, and composed many commercial jingles heard daily in the region. Rico played in Jennifer Cutting's British folk-rock group The New St. George, and with Cutting co-produced their award-winning album *High Tea*.

DANIEL SCHWARTZ (drums) plays drums and percussion with D.C.-area artists One Horse Town, The Justin Trawick Group, and Margot MacDonald. A freelance audio engineer, Daniel is one fourth of the production company BandHouse Gigs. BandHouse stages all-star tributes to artists including Neil Young, Bob Dylan, and Joni Mitchell, at Strathmore Hall. Daniel has performed with Robbie Schaefer, Jon Carroll, John Jennings, and Jr. Cline.

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# Quotes 1

## What the Press is Saying...

“The most dazzling performance, however, was given by...Jennifer Cutting. Live, her music was nothing short of spellbinding...”

Sean Daly, The Washington Post

“Jennifer Cutting’s Ocean Orchestra’s performance on the WAMMIE stage in the beautiful and new Music Center at Strathmore gave many a novice a good example of what craftsmanship means.”

Maria Villafana, Washingtonpost.com

“For a great part of the evening the spotlight shone brightly on a marvelous work of musical art from Jennifer Cutting.”

Steve Winters, WSHU (Connecticut NPR affiliate)

“There are so many astounding elements in this music that is hard to describe them all. Cutting’s blend of traditional Irish adaptations, soaring musical compositions that include new age, Celtic and classical styles and her exceptional use of subject matter, i.e. the ocean in myth and reality make her one of the most creative composers I have ever heard.”

R.J. Lannan, New Age Reporter

## What the Audience is Saying...

“We're all delighted we came... It was a great treat for me to be able to share your wondrous music with my family tonight... I grew up next to the Atlantic at Virginia Beach, and I miss it terribly; tonight you all reminded me of the "ocean" I carry with me all the time, and for a couple of hours it was tangible and real... We'll all talk about this one for some time to come. Thanks again.”

Reuben Musgrave, Silver Spring, MD

“We thoroughly enjoyed Ocean’s concert Saturday night - lovely and energetic music to soothe the soul! The concert was uplifting. Many thanks for such an enjoyable evening!”

Anne Gwynn, Washington, D.C.

“Your orchestra & song cycle are so wonderful - far beyond even my sky-high expectations!”

John Clarke, Rockville, MD

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## What the Presenters are Saying...

Jennifer Cutting has assembled the region's Celtic all stars into her WAMMIE-sweeping Ocean Orchestra. Their recent live performance for us filled Arlington's Lubber Run Amphitheatre with cheering folkies and families alike—and proved that the WAMMIE acclaim was no fluke. Cutting's gift is her ability to take traditional melodies and create arrangements with the vibrancy of amplified instruments without losing the emotional core that sustained the tunes for hundreds of years. The Orchestra also proved their versatility with a rendition of "(I'm Your) Venus" that brought down the house. The group was a pleasure, and we hope to have them back next season.

Jon Palmer Claridge, Program Director  
Arlington Cultural Affairs, Virginia

The Ocean Orchestra was a pleasure to deal with from beginning to end. The ensemble's director Jennifer Cutting not only has an innovative artistic vision, but also has her feet firmly planted on the ground. Before the concert, her well organized delivery of press materials and program notes, careful coordination of logistics, and willingness to work with me in promoting the concert paved the way for a successful event. It culminated in a packed house with the ensemble delivering a magical evening of music that was highly original, yet appealing to audience members of all ages. I look forward to presenting the Ocean Orchestra again soon.

Busy Graham  
Class Acts Arts, Silver Spring, Maryland

Ocean went beyond the simple textures and limited moods of so many everyday acoustic ensembles to present a show that's as deep and colorful as its subject. There is nothing like it, a truly wonderful event.

Joan K.Blanton, Concert Chair  
Shepherdstown Music and Dance, West Virginia

I LOVED your performance at Cerridwen's. You did a fantastic job of bringing in a crowd, but it's not surprising since the show is so very beautiful. Your show is professional, powerful, and amazing and deserves to be toured internationally.

Anna Snodgrass  
Cerridwen's Coffeehouse, Silver Spring, Maryland

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JENNIFER CUTTING'S

# OCEAN

Celtic Music for Ancient Moderns

Ocean CD  
Quotes

***Ocean: Songs for the Night Sea Journey*. National distribution by Allegro; at Borders, Tower, HMV.  
3 months running on the NAR Top 20 Airplay Charts. Featured on National Public Radio.  
Winner of five Washington Area Music Awards, including *Album of the Year***

“*Ocean: Songs for the Night Sea Journey* is an album-length enchantment.”

*The Washington Post*

“Not since *Riverdance* have I heard something so impressive... This is an inspired work.”

*Celtic Beat* magazine

“Jennifer Cutting has created the ultimate must-buy CD of 2005. If Loreena McKennitt, Enigma, or Steeleye Span capture your attention, you're in for a treat! The attention to detail and labour of love that Cutting has poured into this album are obvious. She has created...a concept album without cliché...one of my favourite albums of the year.”

Pete Fyfe [U.K.], *Folking.com*

“A masterpiece of elaborate songwriting, gorgeous melodies and uplifting instrumentation that will have you telling your friends to tell their friends to tell their friends! Until singers like Loreena McKennitt and Enya come up with some new material, those hankering for something along slightly similar lines will be highly impressed with this wonderful album. Very highly recommended.”

Greg Cummins [Australia], *Sea of Tranquility*

“...A collection of beautiful melodies to rival bands such as Clannad, Capercaillie, and Iona... *Ocean* is an amazing and inspiring album, showcasing Jennifer Cutting's wonderful talents. She blends the contemporary and the traditional to create a magical and magnificent work that can be listened to and relished over and over again.” (Five-star rating)

Audrey Elliot, *Musical Discoveries*

“*Ocean* is a sweeping, innovative work that expands the boundaries of folk-rock and offers a message of healing.”

Tom Nelligan, *Dirty Linen*

“What beautiful music... This album is truly an invitation to meet the mystery and be transformed by it.”

Joan Borysenko, Ph.D. Author, *New York Times* bestseller  
*Minding the Body, Mending the Mind*

“With a guest list that will blow your adult and classic rock mind, this folklore pro blows off all the dust, freely adding electronics and whatever else she damn well pleases, creating a wild set that refuses to acknowledge any boundaries. It's a wonderful, professional set and jaded adult ears have been searching for years for this. Hot stuff.”

Chris Spector, *Midwest Record Recap*

“Cutting's blend of traditional Irish adaptations, soaring musical compositions that include New Age, Celtic, and classical styles, and her exceptional use of subject matter make her one of the most creative composers I have ever heard. One of the best [albums] ever to escape the genre.”

RJ Lannan, *New Age Reporter*

“...This enormous-sounding transatlantic project can only be described as Celtic-prog, blending ancient seafaring sounds with opulent widescreen production. The results are impressive... Cutting's seascapes update traditional fare without stripping away its soul for mass-market appeal.”

Steve English, *Splendid* magazine

“*Ocean* is a masterpiece... one of the best discs of the year.”

George Maida, Host, “The Electric Croude,” WCVE  
Richmond, VA

“No one else has blended acoustic folk instruments with electric instruments and digital technology in exactly this way. And the results really are terrific!”

Ken Roseman, *Sing Out*

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# Tech Sheet

## Input List (by instrument):

- 3 individual vocals, SM58's or equiv
- 1 Shure Countryman Isomax E6 headset mic (Grace, lead vocal) using a wireless receiver (XLR output)
- 1 acoustic guitar XLR (for Fishman blender)
- 1 fiddle XLR (for LR Baggs ParaAcoustic DI)
- 1 Scottish smallpipes XLR (for pick-up)
- 1 great highland pipes (chanter); SM57 or equiv
- 1 electric guitar amp cabinet, SM57 or equiv
- 1 accordion, SM57 or equiv
- 1 mandolin, SM57 or equiv
- 1 electric keyboard DI
- 1 bouzouki DI
- 1 electric bass DI

**Power: On-stage AC power** is required for keyboard, keyboard monitor, bass amp, & electric guitar amps. **Off-stage AC** is required for wireless receiver

## Band List (by name):

- Jennifer Cutting (keyboard & accordion)
- Lisa Moscatiello (lead vocal/guitar)
- Jim Eagan (fiddle)
- Zan McLeod (electric guitar/mandolin/bouzouki)
- Steve Winick (lead vocal)
- Rico Petruccelli (electric bass)
- Danny Schwartz (drums)
- Tim Carey (Great Highland Bagpipes & Scottish smallpipes)

## mic'ing for acoustic drum kit:

- 1 kick drum, 1 rack tom, 1 floor tom, 1 snare
- 1 high hat, 2 crash cymbals, 1 ride cymbal

**Boom stands** preferred

**Monitors:** 1 monitor mix for Grace & Lisa emphasizing lead vocals; all other wedges to have a balanced mix of vocals & instruments.

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