

CEREN TEMEL *jazz singer, composer & educator*

From an early age, Ceren Temel, a dedicated jazz singer, composer, and educator, immersed herself in music, learning Turkish folk songs from her father and studying classical music. Her exposure to piano and violin, along with a diverse musical background that included rock and blues, paved the way for her embrace of jazz.

In her career, Temel has achieved significant recognition, winning first place at the 13th Nardis Youth Jazz Vocal Contest in 2017 and earning the "Public Prize" at the 2019 Riga Jazz Stage Young Vocal Contest. She has performed with esteemed orchestras such as the "Turkish Land Forces Command: Turkish Harmony Stars Orchestra" and the "Naval Forces Stars Light Music and Jazz Orchestra."

After completing her studies at Hacettepe University's Ankara State Conservatory, Temel taught jazz vocal lessons there for three years. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in jazz performance at Istanbul University State Conservatory, but she remains actively involved in the Turkish jazz scene as both a performer and educator. Additionally, she now teaches music lessons at Kadir Has University in Istanbul.

In March 2022, Temel marked a significant milestone in her musical journey by releasing her debut EP album titled "The Rewind," in which she explores the intersection of traditional and contemporary jazz through five original compositions. Reflecting on personal struggles and inner peace, she describes the EP as a journey of self-discovery.

Collaborating with Berlin-based spoken-word artist Lady Gaby, Temel initiated the project "I'm the voice, and I can't be silenced!" in September 2022. Using live electronics, she improvised vocal music to accompany Lady Gaby's poetry, advocating for women's rights and gender equality.

Known for her versatility, Temel performs a wide repertoire, from jazz classics to her original compositions, at venues across Turkey. Her recent project, "Iki Loop Project," showcases her innovative use of loop technology, allowing her to create diverse arrangements across multiple genres, including pop, rock, funk, and jazz.

With a disciplined approach to teaching, singing, arranging, and composing, Temel emphasizes the importance of professionalism in music. She values improvisation and interpretation in jazz performances, seeing them as avenues for imagination and self-expression. As a lifelong learner, she embraces diverse musical approaches, demonstrating her open-mindedness and eclectic style.