

RÉSUMÉ

Vaja Mania, a distinguished jazz vocalist and performer with an impressive seventeen-year career that spans a rich musical journey from early childhood to the world stage. Vaja's musicality emerged in his youth, initially captivating audiences with traditional Georgian folk songs. A fortuitous encounter with jazz ignited a transformative influence, shaping Vaja's authentic self and inspiring him to embark on a dedicated career as a jazz vocalist.

His noteworthy achievements include reaching the finals and securing second place in "America's Got Talent's" analog musical contest in Georgia, known as "Geo-Star." Recognizing his exceptional talent, the Government of Georgia awarded Vaja a full scholarship at Berklee College of Music, where he furthered his skills as both a vocalist and trombone player, actively contributing to the promotion of jazz in Georgia.

Vaja stands as a success story for the "Professional-Modal Education Program Development" project initiated by the government. His commitment to excellence led him to London's "Tech Music School," and in 2012, he pursued a Bachelor's degree in jazz performance at Berklee's graduate school. During his college years, Vaja received the prestigious "Sylvia M. Zunz Endowed Scholarship" for outstanding achievements in jazz performance and significant contributions to the Voice Department.

His presence in numerous Boston concerts, including Maggie Scott's "Vocal Jazz Series" and Paula Cole's project "Love is Real," showcased his talent alongside renowned jazz singers such as Kurt Elling, Vanessa Rubin, and Dominique Eade. Recently, Vaja had the honor of participating in the prestigious "The Made in New York Jazz" event, sharing the stage with legendary American Jazz Artists Lenny White, John Benitez, and Roberto Quintero at the Tribeca Performing Art Center in New York City.

Acknowledging his contributions, the New York State Assembly Member from the 45th Assembly District expressed pride and offered congratulations on behalf of the entire community, recognizing Vaja's dedication and passion.

Vaja Mania successfully graduated from Berklee College of Music, majoring in jazz performance in 2018, and has since relocated to Los Angeles City to pursue his vibrant career in jazz.