

Helen Money Biography

Helen Money is Alison Chesley, a Chicago based cellist and composer who has become known for her unique sound and compelling stage performance. Using the tools of a lead guitarist, she channels her sensibilities and experience as a rock musician through a classical instrument. She has opened for bands as diverse as *Shellac*, *Earth*, *Joe Lally*, *Nina Nastasia*, *The Bad Plus*, *KTL* and *Hunn Huur Tu*.

An integral part of the Chicago recording scene, her name appears on dozens of albums, in particular those recorded by two pioneering Chicago musicians and producers, Steve Albini of Electrical Audio and John McIntyre of Soma Studios. Her sound and arrangements can be heard on albums by *MONO*, *Anthrax*, *Russian Circles*, *Chris Connelly*, *Disturbed*, *Bob Mould*, and *Broken Social Scene* to name a few.

A native of Los Angeles, California, Chesley moved to Chicago to attend Northwestern University, where she received a Master's Degree in Cello Performance in 1994. That same year Chesley and Jason Narducy (currently of the *Bob Mould Band*) formed an acoustic rock duo that would become *Verbow*. *Verbow* went on to release two albums for Epic Records - ***Chronicles***, produced by Bob Mould and ***White Out*** produced by Brad Wood. Opening for such bands as *Frank Black*, *Bob Mould*, *Counting Crows*, *Live*, *Morrissey*, *Liz Phair* and *Brad* with Stone Gossard of *Pearl Jam*, *Verbow* toured nationally for seven years.

In addition to writing all the material for *Helen Money*, Chesley also composes music for film, theater and dance, including the soundtrack to the award-winning documentary "Indestructible," two major works for Chicago based Mordine and Company Dance Theater, and music for the Jeff-winning play "Beholder." In 2007 Chesley was honored by being granted a full scholarship to study composition with guitarist/composer Fred Frith at San Francisco's esteemed Mills College. She decided against the move to concentrate on *Helen Money*.

The second full-length *Helen Money* album titled, ***In Tune***, will be released this December on the esteemed experimental and avant-garde label, Table of the Elements. The album was recorded at Electrical Audio by Greg Norman (*Pelican*, *Russian Circles*, *Neurosis*) and mixed by Sanford Parker (*Pelican*, *Chris Connelly*, *Yakuza*, *Buried at Sea*) at Semaphore Studios in Chicago.

Visit Helen Money online at helenmoney.com and myspace.com/helenmoney.



Helen Money Selected Artist Discography

ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL	YEAR
Helen Money	In Tune	Table of the Elements	2009
Helen Money	Helen Money	Cellobird	2007
Krista Franklin & Alison Chesley	Aural Anarchy	Naivete	2007
Poi Dog Pondering	In Seed Comes Fruit	Premonition (special 8fattat8 edition)	2004
Poi Dog Pondering	Soul Sonic Orchestra	Platetectonic	2000
Verbow	White Out (Produced by Brad Wood)	Epic	2000
Verbow	Chronicles (Produced by Bob Mould)	Epic	1997
Jason and Alison	Woodshed	Whitehouse	1994

Selected Albums Upon Which Alison Chesley Has Performed And/Or Directed String Arrangements

ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL	YEAR
Broken Social Scene	in production	Arts and Crafts	TBA
Anthrax	Worship Music	Sanctuary	TBA
Russian Circles	Geneva	Suicide Squeeze	2009
Mono	Hymn to the Immortal Wind	Temporary Residence Ltd.	2009
Mono	You Are There	Temporary Residence Ltd.	2006
Mono	Walking Cloud	Temporary Residence Ltd.	2004
Disturbed	Believe	Warner Brothers	2002
Archer Prewitt	Three	Carrot Top	2002
Chris Connelly & The Bells	Blonde Exodus	Invisible	2001
Archer Prewitt	White Sky	Thrill Jockey	1999
Bob Mould	The Last Dog and Pony Show	Rykodisc	1998

**For press materials, additional information on Helen Money, or to set-up interviews please contact
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