

MARY PANACCI

Performer, recording artist and vocalist Mary Panacci is a seasoned music professional, who studied Musical Theatre at Sheridan College and was also a music graduate of Humber College. Her career has been diverse and exciting, and her crystalline soprano voice is a natural instrument that is capable of conveying deep emotion – whether she's tugging at the heart strings of the guests at an intimate church wedding or entrancing jazz lovers with her own unique and passionate style, Mary has consistently dazzled audiences at a variety of venues, including numerous shows on the stages of Roy Thompson Hall and the historic Winter Garden Theatre.

Mary Panacci has earned a well respected name in the Canadian jazz community and beyond. With her innate ability to swing as well as her musicality and jazz sensibility, she has been honoured to share the stage with some of Toronto's top jazz musicians including Rob Piltch, Reg Schwager, Mike Downes, Terry Clarke and the legendary Guido Basso. She has been a featured performer with many popular big bands, including "The Jazz Mechanics" and "The Starlight Orchestra". She was also featured on the "Bob Clegg Jazz Octet & Friends" CD recording with the highly regarded Stan Perry on drums and Bob Livingston of "The Boss Brass" on trombone. Mary's jazz performances also include appearances at prominent jazz clubs and festivals throughout Ontario.

In a review of one of her recent Toronto area gigs, a music reviewer for SNAP Magazine wrote, ***"The Sultry Sounds of Mary Panacci's voice could be heard coming from the Home Smith Bar, in the Old Mill Inn, on August 31st. This jazz trio jazzed it up with some beautiful classics and Mary's voice would have made 'Ol Blue Eyes himself sit up and take notice."***

Mary Panacci is very excited to be releasing her latest recording, *HER PERFUME* this April 21, 2015 at Toronto's premiere music venue, JAZZ BISTRO. Produced by her husband, pianist Anthony Panacci, this CD features thirty-five of Toronto's finest musicians and spectacular arrangements by Anthony Panacci, Shelly Berger and Luis Mario Ochoa.

In addition to her on-stage 'live' performances, Mary has also been an in-demand studio singer - frequently hired to sing jingles, demos, and back-up vocals for other artists. She was commissioned by Fisher Price to record four CDs - three of which were in Italian. Mary has also enjoyed working for many exceptional producers, including the great Daniel Lanois. As a composer, she was thrilled that her original song "Let's Celebrate" was chosen as Mississauga's

Millennium theme! She was further honoured to perform the song on stage alongside Mayor Hazel McCallion on New Year's Eve 2000 at The Mississauga Civic Centre.

"Mariella" as she is known in the Italian community, has written award winning songs honouring her Italian/Canadian traditions. Her CD "A Yarda Mia" features some beautiful traditional folk and popular songs, as well as a few of her own compositions. The song "A Yarda Mia", won "Best Original" in the CHIN Italian Song Festival. It was a favorite on Chin Radio and by request, received extensive airplay. Her subsequent songs, "A Supressata Calabrese" and latest "Grazie" were also winners of the song festival. This led to quite a following and many performances both in Canada and in the U.S.

This versatile Mary Panacci has also been thrilled to join some of Toronto's finest tenors as they performed Opera, Broadway, Pop and Jazz classics. The concerts were so well-received that she released a compilation CD of this musical genre, entitled *Concert Selections: Broadway, Opera, Pop and Jazz*. This recording features some superb duets with tenors, Peter Marino, Andrea Garofalo, and Mitch Seekins as well as renditions of some great jazz standards with quartet, Mike Downes, Ted Quinlan, Ted Warren, and Anthony Panacci.

Mary has also had the pleasure of singing in a trio with two accomplished vocalists, Kathleen Eyman and Donna O'Connor. They called themselves "The Sparklettes" and their distinctive vocal sound had them performing regularly at a variety of summer concerts and festivals, corporate events and as back up vocalists at Roy Thompson Hall. In their current incarnation, "The Sparklettes" are now "The Sparklettes Duo" featuring Mary Panacci and Kathleen Eyman, and are dazzling audiences with various themed shows such as "The Fabulous Fifties" and "The Golden Era of the Big Bands".

Mary's prime focus in 2015 will be in promoting her new CD, which will include radio air play and performing at Jazz Festivals and other jazz venues. Other musical situations will include performances with "The Sparklettes Duo" and appearances at various Italian-Canadian events. Mary has been a dedicated music educator, inspiring many young musicians and actors by teaching Summer Music Theatre programs at Sean Boutilier School of Dance and as a music teacher in the Catholic Separate School Board. Mary Panacci has also been a member of the folk choir at St. Dominic's Church for over fifteen years.