

The Old School House Arts Centre

122 Fern Rd. West, Qualicum Beach, B.C. 250-752-6133

www.theoldschoolhouse.org

THREE DELIGHTFUL 2010 JAZZ CABARET EVENINGS

With Delectable Dessert Buffets

Admission: \$18 (or \$45 for a 3-cabaret package) Tickets Available Now

1) Saturday, February 13, 7:00 PM: Valentine Cabaret Featuring Melody Diachun

With Ron Hadley-piano and Doug Stephenson-bass



Melody Diachun has been hailed as "one of the world's finest young jazz composers and vocalists" (BRAVO!TV) Melody was born in Montreal and exposed to music from the start by her father, himself a singer and pianist. Her formal education in music began with piano lessons at age 6. She grew up performing and at age 15 took her first professional singing engagement. At age 17 Melody moved back to Montreal to attend McGill University. She was the first vocalist admitted to the school's Jazz Performance Program, in which she earned her Bachelor of Music degree ("with distinction" in Jazz Voice). She became an active member of the city's jazz community, eventually leading her own bands.

In the mid-90's she was awarded a Canada Council for the Arts study grant and moved to New York City to study with Sheila Jordan and work on composition.

A full-time professional vocalist since 1997, Melody has worked with many of Canada's top jazz artists including Oliver Gannon, Michel Donato, P.J. Perry, Dave Restivo, and many others. She has starred in her own episode of the television series "JAZZMAN" which airs regularly on BRAVO!TV and the BET Network.

In 2000 Melody moved to Vancouver. Her critically-acclaimed debut CD "LULLABY of the LEAVES" (released 2002) has been featured on national, local and college radio.

2) Saturday, March 20, 7:00 PM: Italian Cabaret Featuring Maria Manna

With Ron Hadley-piano and Joey Smith-bass



As Edmonton's Woman of the Year', Maria has sung before Premiers and Prime Ministers. She has entertained audiences from Vancouver Island to New York City, given many performances in Europe and exudes the professional confidence and flash of a world-class entertainer. She is an entertainment legend in her hometown of Edmonton as the former Klondike Kate: 1999 - 2000, the opening act for the Beach Boys, an inductee into the Music Archives of Alberta and an entertainer of the Canadian Military in Aviano, Italy and Bosnia.

Maria has released 3 CDs: "Solo Amore", "Klondike Kate in Bosnia" and her latest "Between the Sheets".

Audiences are enthralled by her warm, jazzy style and are drawn irresistibly upward into the rarefied stratosphere of her talent. Manna's warm, breathy vocal presence and instinctive lyrical sense is woven into the fabric of her material, from swing to ballad, and delivered with her own distinctively magnetic charm in both English and Italian.

3) Saturday, April 17, 7:00 PM: Spanish Cabaret Featuring Nancy Ruth

With Ron Hadley-piano and Ken Lister-bass



International recording artist NANCY RUTH has graced stages worldwide, offering her unique musical blend of jazz, Latin and pop. Her career started with classical studies in voice, piano and theatre, then leading roles in musicals such as *Dames at Sea*, *Grease*, and a six-year run of the successful Yukon review *Beaver Creek Rendezvous*. In addition to her theatre experience, Nancy toured Canada with bands *Axess* and *Renaissance*, appeared in Singapore as guest vocalist with WEA recording artists *The Lovehunters*, and an uncanny ability to sing in different languages once landed her a month-long gig performing at the Palace of the Sultan of Brunei.

Nancy grew up Sidney, British Columbia, where an early love of jazz was ignited by family jam sessions. But it wasn't until she traveled to Latin America and then eventually settled in Spain that she found her greatest musical passion. Her love of Spanish now infuses much of her work--as evident on her latest CD, *Me Quedo*, for the Home of Jazz label (Netherlands). Nancy continues to compose songs in a personal style encompassing the sounds of flamenco, jazz, and boleros. She has worked with pianist Bob Albanese in New York, studied with pianist Lloyd Abrams in Vancouver, collaborated with composer Toño Robira in Panama, and continues her study of the flamenco guitar with master *tocaor* Gabriel Cabrera de los Gazules in Spain.