



HOPKINS CENTER

presents

Jane Monheit, jazz vocalist and her Quartet

Michael Kanan *piano*

Miles Okazaki *guitar*

Orlando Le Fleming *bass*

Rick Montalbano *drums*

Post-performance discussion

You are invited to remain in the theater immediately following the performance for an informal discussion with Jane Monheit.

This performance is made possible in part by generous support from the Bob Gatzert 1951 Jazz Series for the Hopkins Center and the Lincoln and Therese Filene Foundation Inc.



Co-sponsored by VERMONT PUBLIC RADIC

Friday, August 19, 2005 • 8 pm
Spaulding Auditorium • Dartmouth College

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Jane Monheit vocals is one of the hottest new singers in jazz since wowing the judges at the 1998 Thelonious Monk Competition when she was only 20. What she brings to singing, at such a tender age, astonishes even jazz veterans. For beyond the dazzle of her youth, beauty and infectious charm are the uncanny perception and soul with which she embraces the classic songs of the Great American Songbook.

“Lush and luminous” both in voice and in person (in the words of columnist Liz Smith), Jane has been hailed as “jazz’s next sultry sweetie” (*People*), with the *New York Observer* noting, “Her music leavened with her own sultry beauty and youthful exuberance is nothing short of intoxication.” Her performances have left *The New York Times* sensing “that beneath the glamour was the soul of a preternaturally wise child. In other words, Ms. Monheit is the real thing.”

Jane’s artistry and charisma catapulted her latest recording, *Taking a Chance on Love*, to the No. 1 spot on *Billboard’s* Traditional Jazz chart as well as the top 100 on *Billboard’s* pop chart in its first week of release. Although this album marks Jane’s debut as a Sony Classical recording artist, she has already conquered Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Hollywood Bowl, the Kennedy Center and London’s Royal Festival Hall. Jane has also graced the stages of New York’s most prestigious jazz clubs from the Village Vanguard, the Blue Note and the Oak Room at the Algonquin to the world’s top jazz festival stages, including Monterey, JVC and North Sea. Her new recording of *Over the Rainbow* can be found on the soundtrack to the film *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow*, and TV audiences have watched her perform on *Late Show with David Letterman*, *Late Night with Conan O’Brien*, *Good Morning America*, *The View* and *CBS Sunday Morning*.

Jane Monheit grew up on Long Island, entranced as a little girl by the classic recordings of Ella Fitzgerald and other jazz greats, and went on to study voice at

Manhattan School of Music with Peter Eldridge, one of the founding members of the vocal group New York Voices.

In the wake of her triumph at the Monk Competition, Jane made the first of three acclaimed recordings for the N-Coded label: *Never Never Land*, *Come Dream with Me* and *In the Sun*, and she has made guest appearances on several prominent jazz albums including Sony Classical’s *Let’s Get Lost* with Terence Blanchard and *In Full Swing* with Mark O’Connor’s Hot Swing Trio and Wynton Marsalis.

For *Taking a Chance on Love*, Jane chose classic songs she fell in love with while watching MGM musicals as a child, ranging from the title track, *Honeysuckle Rose* to *I Won’t Dance* (joined by Michael Bublé), *Dancing in the Dark*, *Bill* and *Embraceable You*. Joining her for the recording are such legendary artists as Christian McBride, Romero Lubambo, Ron Carter and arrangers Vince Mendoza, Jorge Calandrelli, Rob Mounsey and Alan Broadbent, as well her own quartet, which includes pianist Michael Kanan, guitarist Miles Okazaki, bassist Orlando Le Fleming and drummer Rick Montalbano. This is Jane Monheit’s first appearance at the Hopkins Center.

Michael Kanan piano is originally from Boston, MA, where he attended Boston College. He studied with Harvey Diamond in Boston and Sal Mosca in New York, both students of legendary pianist and composer Lennie Tristano. From 1995-2001, Kanan accompanied vocal great Jimmy Scott, with whom he toured the U.S., Europe and Japan, made numerous TV and radio appearances and recorded three CDs.

In addition to accompanying vocalists like Scott, Jane Monheit and Annie Ross, Kanan also performed with guitarist Kurt Rosenwinkel, with whom he recorded the CD *Intuit*; founded the International Hashiva Orchestra with Mark Turner and Jorge Rossy; and led his own trio, with bassist Ben Street and drum-

ABOUT THE ARTISTS CONTINUED

mer Tim Pleasant, on the recordings *Convergence* and *The Gentleman is a Dope*.

For the last two and a half years, he has been pianist/arranger for the Jane Monheit Quartet, with whom he has toured the U.S., Europe, Japan, Brazil and Canada, and performed on her two most recent recordings.

Miles Okazaki *guitar* has been playing guitar since the age of 6, and performing professionally since the age of thirteen. He grew up in the Seattle area and lived in New Orleans and Boston before moving to New York in 1977 to explore its music scene.

After working as a music copyist and arranger, he picked up sideman work with Stanley Turrentine, Regina Carter, Chuck Israels, Lenny Pickett, Allan Harris and many others. His expertise in transcription, arranging, orchestration and studio production led to work with Rodney Jones, Lena Horne, Donald Harrison and Jimmy McGriff. He has also had formal training in South Indian rhythmic techniques and performed with *tabla* virtuoso Samir Chatterjee. He holds degrees from Harvard University and Manhattan School of Music and continues his academic interests as well as private teaching.

He is currently a featured soloist and accompanist on electric and acoustic guitar with the Jane Monheit Quartet.

Orlando Le Fleming *bass* was born in Birmingham England. His mother is a professional cellist and his father a composer. His first ambition was to become a professional cricketer, an aim that was realized when he played for five years in the minor countries.

After receiving a place at London's Royal Academy of Music, Orlando decided to give up cricket and pursue his love of music. While based in London, he quickly established himself as one of the UK's most prominent bass players, touring and recording with Jason Rebello, Julian Joseph, Desree, Tommy Smith,

Mica Paris, Jean Toussaint and Guy Barker. Orlando was also in demand to perform and tour with visiting U.S. musicians such as Bill Charlap, Don Braden, Dave Leibman, Jeff Watts, Joey Calderazzo and, most notably, Branford Marsalis.

Since moving to New York in 2003, Orlando has toured with Billy Cobham's new group The Art of Five and has become a permanent member of the Jane Monheit Quartet.

Rick Montalbano *drums* has been playing professionally since the age of 13. Growing up in a musical family offered him great opportunities to be exposed to world-class musicians. As early as grade school, he was playing with jazz saxophonists Sal Nistico and J.R. Monterose. Eventually, he won the very first J.R. Monterose Memorial Scholarship.

In high school, Rick was selected as one of five young international musicians to be awarded the prestigious National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts scholarship. In addition to the scholarship, the five finalists were awarded Clifford Brown/Stan Getz Fellowships and invited to play a series of concerts for some of the top names in jazz at the International Association of Jazz Educators Convention.

In 1997, Rick moved to New York City, where he was awarded a full scholarship to the Manhattan School of Music. Rick's talents were called upon to play with some of the finest musicians in the world, including Brad Mehldau, Phil Woods, Randy Brecker and Clark Terry. He also worked on many recordings, including two recently with up-and-coming tenor saxophonist Ari Ambrose (Steely Dan).

Currently, Rick is the drummer of choice for world-renowned vocalist Jane Monheit. Over the past three years her Quartet has been touring the world in support of her three chart-topping albums. The Quartet has also recently finished recording Jane's fourth album, and will continue to tour in support of her upcoming release.

COMING EVENTS

Tickets for the '05-'06 season on sale August 24! Call the Box Office at 603.646.2422 or visit hop.dartmouth.edu

Compagnie Marie Chouinard

The Rite of Spring/Le Sacre du Printemps
Contemporary masterpiece by award-winning Canadian choreographer Marie Chouinard, set to Stravinsky's original score.

Thursday, September 22 • 7 pm

Friday, September 23 • 8 pm

The Moore Theater • \$26 • Dartmouth students \$5

★ Post-performance discussion with company members immediately following each performance

Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*: The Art & the Aftermath
Steve Swayne, Dartmouth Department of Music and Ford Evans,
Director of Hop Dance/Dartmouth Department of Theater discuss
Stravinsky's notorious ballet and its lasting impact on the art world.
Wednesday, September 21 • 6 pm • Faculty Lounge • Free
For more information, call Hop Outreach at (603) 646-2010.

Yunnan Revealed

**Indigenous Music and Dance
from China's Land of Clouds**

Ethnically diverse musicians and dancers from the Chinese
province of Yunnan in a rare performance of authentic traditions.

Thursday, September 29 • 7 pm • Spaulding Auditorium

\$26 • Dartmouth students \$5 • 18 & under \$14

★ Pre-performance discussion with documentary
filmmaker Liu Xiaojin, 6 pm, Faculty Lounge

Experience the Cultural Arts of China's Yunnan Province

Film Screening: *Chronicle of the Minority Institute*

Panel Discussion: The Impact of Globalization on
Indigenous Cultures

For full details on the free events in conjunction with Yunnan
Revealed, visit hop.dartmouth.edu or call Hop Outreach at (603)
646-2010.

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Assistive Listening Devices available in the lobby.



If you do not wish to keep your playbill, please discard
it in the recycling bin provided in the lobby. Thank you.