

## Laura Gessner

Singing has been for me a lifetime vocation : upon accomplishment of some of the usual common life goals, I hesitated no further and made it my main profession.

In addition to having performed in the Musical “Annie” (Milan,2004 by the Live on stage Company under the Direction of Mr Federico Bellone) while embarking on some modern rock music stints which produced CD's such as “Ma tu pensati bella“ released at the 2000 Melide International Country Blue Grass Festival (Switzerland) and the “L'enigma della vita” in 2003 , I experimented with American jazz and its main interpreters finding it to be my real vocal calling and the style most suited to my way of expressing my inner feelings.

Thus, I embarked on a rigorous program of voice training with internationally known teachers such as the Master Jazz Pianist Mr. Roberto Pronzato and the acclaimed singer and voice coach Ms. Manuela Ravaglioli, while carefully studying the way the American jazz and blues icons delivered their songs.

In the last 10 years I have been privileged to perform together with major worldwide famous Italian jazz players such as Romano Mussolini, Franco Cerri, Tito Mangialajo, Michele Di Toro, Riccardo Bianchi, Paolo Alderighi and others and be accompanied by the harmonica of the unforgettable Bruno de Filippi, the International acclaimed master.

From 2001 to 2007, accompanied by the guitar of Frank Marcheselli, I was the voice of “Light art Festivaltravaglia”, a multicultural event which took place every year at Portovaltravaglia, on Lake Maggiore, Italy.

In april 2009 I recorded the CD “Keep on Jazzin” with the Unprofessional Jazz Band.

Grateful for the success I have been enjoying, I feel also committed to somehow give back to Society and I actively support major Italian based Benefit Organizations such as the Candia Foundation, the V.I.S.P.E (Italian Volunteers Supporting Developing Countries), the Project for People Association, the Transplant Association, the CBM (Center for Abused Children)... by performing as a regularly invited guest to their annual Fund Raising Concerts.