



JANE MONHEIT BIO

“Everything I’m singing now is a reflection of my truest self,” says **Jane Monheit**. “After all this time in the industry, after touring for 13 years, it’s time to just be me, with complete and utter freedom.”

Monheit’s sense of liberation is apparent throughout her many recordings and in everything she does. It can be felt in her wide- ranging choice of material, in the unique arrangements, and in her own fearless performances and interpretations. As comfortable singing Lennon/McCartney, Randy Newman as she is with Ivan Lins and Cole Porter, Monheit’s range and vocal skill is rarely heard today.

When speaking about what informs her song choices, Jane says: “Over the years, my singing has really taken on that focus. At the beginning of my career, I wanted to show proof of my knowledge of music— that I could improvise and sing through the changes. But as I got older, especially after getting married and having a child, I started feeling the lyrics more simply because I had more to sing about. Focusing on the technical side was part of my learning process, but over time, all of that became a natural part of my singing. Now I use it to support the lyric.”

Jane Monheit has been a leading light and a wonderful role model since emerging as a finalist in the Thelonious Monk Institute’s 1998 vocal competition. In addition to her own recordings, she has worked alongside many illustrious artists who have easily recognized her talent and commitment to hard work.

Jane’s most recent recording, *The Heart Of The Matter*, is a work deeply informed by Jane Monheit’s life— as a woman, wife, and mother in the second decade of a remarkable career— and it reaches emotional levels she attributes to an “extreme comfort zone” in the recording studio. “I think I’ve finally reached my level of onstage / live interpretation as well as in the studio.”

Jane is a brave performer who follows her heart. She currently is building a show and a recording of the music of one of the grand stars of Jazz, Ella Fitzgerald. The show is entitled **Jane Monheit Sings Ella Fitzgerald—The Songbook Sessions**. She speaks of Ella with reverence and says: “When I was growing up, listening to music and singing along with records was the greatest joy of my life. Above all, beyond any other artist, I loved and revered Ella.”

“When you’re playing music you love with people you love, it always makes for the best music.”

For more on Jane Monheit including a complete discography, photos and calendar of dates, please visit: www.janemonheitonline.com