

Artist Profile **Kate Michaels**

The music of independent and sultry singer Kate Michaels has been described as classy, humorous and elegant. All the recordings and performances Kate creates are distinct and carry her special stamp of creativity and style. The classical training helps leave a distinctive impression on each audience member.

An accomplished musician of numerous eclectic styles, Kate Michaels comes from California. Influenced by classical, blue-grass and big band music spanning the 20's-40's, Kate has an intimate understanding of music and voice.

In *Swinging the Marilyn Monroe Songbook* you can hear the influence of such greats as Judy Garland, Mary Martin, Shirley Jones, Ethel Merman, Julie Andrews and Jo Stafford. Like these singers, Kate's natural phrasing includes a very clean line, pure tone and subtle power. Her songs are distinct and clear and full of passion and joy. Kate has studied the flute and credits this instrument for her ability to have the extended musical phrases she is known for.



In addition to training with Frank Ryken and Edward Sayegh in San Francisco, Kate attended the American Institute of Musical Studies. She has also worked with conductor Stephen Mecurio (Spoleto Opera), jazz arrangers Phil Matson and Kirby Shaw, and Tim Hauser of the Manhattan Transfer. Early solo engagements include Reno National Jazz Festival and Sacramento Memorial Jazz Festival and appearances on television and radio as well as extensive theater work.

After joining the cast of Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of the Opera* in Basel, Switzerland Kate went on to produce her debut album *Just Marilyn*, paying honor to the Rat Pack era of great singers and song writers from the 40s and 50s. Her second album, *The Best Things In Life*, continues this tribute to the Rat pack era. *Swinging the Marilyn Monroe Songbook* is the show which showcases Kate and The Red Thread and special guests. Updated hits like *In the Mood*, *A Fine Romance*, *I Won't Dance*, and the Monroe standard *Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend*.

As a clinician and educator, Kate has been on the faculty and given master classes on jazz and modern singing at California University Berkeley Extension, The American Conservatory, The New Conservatory Theater, St. Mary's College, Justin-Siena High School, Napa Valley High School, International Children's theater Program, Bern Jazz School, Basel Jazz School, Zürich Theater and Dance School and the Sacramento Waldorf School as well as numerous church, gospel and local theater programs. She is a member of the National Association of Singers, Screen Actors Guild, SVKB and Suisa. Her article Freeing German Diction is available through Classical Singers magazine.

*„With crystal clear diction and a voice **dripping with sensuality** backed by an **excellent group of musicians** and arrangements mixed with precision, **Kate** touches the nostalgia...and has captured the vocal style and nuances in a manner that would have pleased the late great film star“ –M. Briggs, Reviewer, Sacramento CA*