

The Man Behind The Mic

In another time and place, Jerry Costanzo wouldn't be interpreting the Great American Songbook. It's likely he'd be conceiving it. Midwest Record deemed the luminous vocalist and entertainer "*a cat that knows how to swing it and grab the Vegas vibe that most of us never were old enough to experience,*" while Jazz.com raved, "*As all great singers do, he tells a story.*"

Raised in a musical family, Costanzo's musical stencil was etched with the likes of Frank Sinatra, Perry Como, Dean Martin, Mel Torme, Jerry Vale and Nat King Cole. He was playing saxophone by third grade, and developed chops as a performer studying acting at New York's Herbert Berghoff Studio. A stint as personal aid and chauffeur for Al Pacino further apprised Costanzo to the arts, before he joined his father Joseph's big band, The Memories Of Swing, first on sax and then as the outfit's lead vocalist.

While well into his 30s before this New Yorker (now living in Los Angeles) recognized his calling card—bringing his musical idols back to life—Costanzo is making up for lost time. Today, the man behind the mic is a full-time troubadour and bandleader, surrounded by a Who's Who of the jazz world.

In 2008, his debut full-length album "*Destination Moon,*" served up a dozen chestnuts, including the title track, "I'm Gonna Live Till I Die," "Come Fly with Me" and "Straighten Up and Fly Right." Showcasing 13 masterful musicians and arrangements.

"Moon" earned Costanzo a dedicated live following, with gigs including the Annual Sinatra Birthday Bash at The Count Basie Theatre, New York's Metropolitan Room, Feinstein's at The Loews Regency, Birdland, The Iridium Jazz, Swing 46 Jazz & Supper Club, The Kitano, The Cicada Club, The Blue Note Hawaii, The Long Island Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, The Madison Theatre at Molloy College, and dozens of concert series, and private posh events up and down the East Coast.

Most recently, The Man Behind The Mic" has release two additional full-length albums, "*Can't We Be Friends*" and "*Invitation*" As well a two single recordings "*Can I Steal A Little Love*" and "*Don't Cha Go Away Mad*" And since 2013 has been busy leading his "*Gotham City Swingers*" Orchestra, Where he an the band can be seen regularly at the Cicada Club LA. The Band performs classic and original arrangements from the Swing Era, to the Rat Pack Stylings of the 1950's and 60's. With a smattering of unique arrangements from classic TV and film. All, to create a fun and memorable experience for his dedicated fans. .

"It wouldn't be an overstatement to say that Jerry Costanzo is on par with living legends like Tony Bennett and the like. His love for the classic jazz repertoire is unquestionable and his musical skill set is more than ample. In the realm of traditional song interpreters it doesn't get much better!"

~ Jazz Inside Magazine