

## “The Man Behind the Mic”

In another time and place, Jerry Costanzo wouldn't be interpreting the Great American Songbook — he'd likely be helping to write 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 foundation was shaped by the sounds of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr. Mel Tormé, and Nat King Cole, among others. By third grade, he was already playing saxophone, later refining his craft through acting studies at New York's famed Herbert Berghof Studio. A stint as personal aide and chauffeur to Al Pacino further immersed him in the performing arts before he joined his father Joseph's big band, *The Memories of Swing* — first as a saxophonist, then as the orchestra's lead vocalist.

Although well into his 30s before fully embracing his true calling — bringing the timeless music of the Great American Songbook to life — Costanzo has spent the years since making up for lost time. Today, “The Man Behind the Mic” is a full-time entertainer, bandleader, and ambassador of classic American music, performing alongside a veritable who's who of the jazz world.

In 2008, Costanzo released his debut full-length album, *Destination Moon*, featuring beloved standards including the title track, “I'm Gonna Live Till I Die,” “Come Fly with Me,” and “Straighten Up and Fly Right.” Featuring 13 masterful musicians and lush arrangements, the album earned him a dedicated live following and led to performances at renowned venues including the Count Basie Center for the Arts, Birdland, The Iridium, Blue Note Hawaii, Vibrato Grill Jazz, and Campus JAX, along with concert halls, performing arts centers, jazz clubs, and exclusive private events across both coasts.

Since then, Costanzo has released two additional full-length albums, *Can't We Be Friends* and *Invitation*, as well as the singles “Can I Steal a Little Love” and “Don't Cha Go Away Mad.”

For the past decade, he has also led his acclaimed Gotham City Swingers Orchestra, performing classic and original arrangements spanning the Swing Era through the Rat Pack stylings of the 1950s and '60s. Blending timeless swing with pop culture flair, the orchestra incorporates cleverly arranged themes from classic television and film to create a unique and entertaining experience for audiences of all ages.

“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*