

George Bugatti ~ Biography

George Bugatti is an American singer/songwriter and pianist with three CDs in wide release. The first CD was produced by Tonight Show creator Steve Allen. The second CD was recorded live at Bellagio, Las Vegas and is on Paul Anka Productions. The third CD was produced by Nigel Wright (Executive music producer of American Idol and Warner Bros. Phantom of the Opera) and is distributed by Universal. George also made his NYC Broadway debut on December 17, 2012 in the jukebox musical “The Wonderful Wizard of Song, The Music of Harold Arlen”.

Discovered while performing at the Peninsula Hotel in Beverly Hills by Steve Allen, Bugatti was quickly singled out to be the prolific comedian's protégé. Shortly after recording his first CD with Steve Allen, Bugatti made his concert debut in Los Angeles with the legendary singer Tony Bennett. In an unprecedented gesture, Bennett invited Bugatti to perform with him at the Thousand Oaks Civic Auditorium.

Bugatti started studying music at the age of 5, and attended the prestigious High School of the Performing Arts in New York. He continued his education at the highly competitive Julliard College, where he honed his skills as a classical pianist before tragedy befell the young artist.

In an accident, the median nerve of his right hand was severed, causing the almost complete loss of all movement and sensitivity in his right hand. He was told he would never play again. It was then that he discovered his voice.

Bugatti performed for seven years at the famous Peninsula Hotel in Beverly Hills, from the Grand opening in 1991 to 1998. Meeting and playing for countless guests, celebrities and dignitaries, it was there that George first met Steve Allen. Allen produced Bugatti's first CD, “Oh, What A Night For Love” and then invited him to appear in the stage version of the original “Tonight Show” with cast members Jonathan Winters, Louie Nye, and Bill Dana at venues like the House of Blues in Los Angeles and Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts.

During his record breaking run at The Peninsula Hotel, Beverly Hills Los Angeles Magazine dubbed George “Hollywood's Hippest Crooner”.

In 1998 Steve Wynn invited Bugatti, along with Michael Feinstein and John Pizzerelli, to open Bellagio Resort in Las Vegas.

After two years as a featured performer at Bellagio, Bugatti recorded “Bugatti Live on the Strip” which was released in 2000 on Paul Anka Productions.

Bugatti's next move was to headline with his big band at The Sands, Atlantic City in 2001.

After headlining with his big band in The Copa Room at The Sands, Atlantic City, Chuck Darrow of the New Jersey Courier-Post said, “Bugatti's warm satiny voice is complimented by some of the best phrasing The Sands has heard since Sinatra last played there”.

After years of rehabilitation of his hand and an unwillingness to accept the doctors' diagnosis, in 2002, against all odds, George received critical acclaim for his NYC debut at Carnegie Hall. On December 12th and again on May 14th, 2003, he not only vocalized but also performed on piano a suite of his favorite works arranged by Peter Nero.

His 3rd Album, "A Night for Romance", distributed by Universal is in stores and on radio play lists nationwide and was produced by Nigel Wright, former music producer of the FOX TV show American Idol. The CD features a single written by U2 front man Bono, who gave George the song originally intended for Frank Sinatra.

Most recently, George wrote and starred in "The Wonderful Wizard Of Song, The Music of Harold Arlen", a project which he co-created with the composer's son, Sam Arlen. The show made its New York City debut in December, 2012 and ran for a year and a half at the St. Luke's Theater on 46th and 8th in the heart of Manhattan's theater district.

It is the only Broadway Musical ever created and work-shopped in Las Vegas!

In October 2014, "The Wonderful Wizard of Song" came home for a 3 date run at the prestigious Smith Center, Las Vegas.

In October 2015 Bugatti joined friend and fellow musician/conductor Vincent Falcone as they recreated for the first time in a LIVE performance, the recordings of Tony Bennett and Bill Evans at the Smith Center, Las Vegas.

In January 2016, "The Wonderful Wizard of Song" made its U.K. Cabaret Debut at the Crazy Coqs theater in London, U.K.

In addition to singing Jazz and Broadway standards, George also enjoys great standards from the 50's, 60's and 70's. He has opened for comedy legend Don Rickles and Emmy winning television actor and comedian Brad Garrett.



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