

artist bio/program notes

MICHAEL GULLO

Michael Gullo is a rising star in contemporary and jazz vocal music. At just 22 years old, his rich tones and subtle phrasing of jazz standards, pop ballads and multiple-voice arrangements have already earned him top honors and a loyal following of listeners. Michael has performed on stage with Patti Austin, Bobby McFerrin, Bruce Hornsby, James Moody, Steve Miller Band, Phil Woods, Tierney Sutton, Jon Secada, Robert Davi, Ricky Skaggs and Sunny Wilkinson.

At an early age Michael felt a powerful attraction to jazz music and continued studying at Seattle's Roosevelt High School, one of the top jazz schools in the country. His musicianship and fresh interpretations of jazz standards like "I'm Beginning to See the Light" and "Body and Soul" won him the "Best Male Vocalist" award at the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival two years in a row; in 2008, he was just one of four male vocalists in the country to be selected to perform in the exclusive Gibson/Baldwin Grammy Vocal Jazz Ensemble, where he was a featured Vocalist and Vocal Percussionist, performing with Grammy 2007 nominees in some of L.A.'s top venues. In 2009, Michael turned his attention to Big Band music and toured the USA and Canada as the Lead Male Vocalist with the Glenn Miller Orchestra, delighting audiences with his elegant interpretations of standards like "White Cliffs of Dover" and "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square."

As a scholarship student at the University of Miami's prestigious Frost School of Music, Michael had the opportunity in 2010 to work with legendary producer, Phil Ramone (Tony Bennett, Ray Charles, Natalie Cole, John Legend) when cast as a young Sinatra in his new musical "Lanza". He graduated May 2011, cum laude with a degree in Jazz Voice and Studio Music. Through his distinct vocal style, arrangements, and compositions he creates a fresh and elegant fusion between contemporary and classic jazz.

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