

Created by: Debra C. Argen

## Jane Monheit - Interview

**Sultry Jazz Vocalist Jane Monheit** takes time out from touring to speak with [Luxury Experience](http://luxuryexperience.com/) about her latest 12-track album, **Home**, released on the [Concord Records](http://luxuryexperience.com/) label. Aptly named **Home**, the jazz standard album has a comfortable, cozy, feel to it, like sharing an evening with a dear friend.

LE



Jane, thank you for taking time to speak with Luxury Experience about your latest album, entitled "**Home**."

What was your inspiration for **Home**, featuring such memorable jazz standards as *A Shine On Your Shoes* (Howard Dietz and Arthur Schwartz, 1932); *There's A Small Hotel* (Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart, 1936); *This is Always* (Mack Gordon and Harry Warren, 1946); *Tonight You Belong to Me* (Billy Rose and Lee David, 1926); *Look For The Silver Lining* (Jerome Kern and B.G. DeSylva, 1919); *I'll Be Around* (Alec Wilder, 1942); *Everything I've Got Belongs To You* (Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart, 1942); *The Eagle and Me* (Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg, 1944); *I Didn't Know About You/All Too Soon* (Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington, Bob Russell, 1944); *Isn't It A Lovely Day* (Irving Berlin, 1935 for the Fred Astaire film, *Top Hat*); *While We Were Young* (Alec Wilder, William Engvick, Morty Palitz, 1943); and the only non-standard, *It's Only Smoke* (Larry Goldings and Cliff Goldmacher)?

JANE

After making nine "fancy schmancy" records, which were great, with big string orchestras, I wanted to do something different and make a more realistic album with just my band. Since we cannot produce that big orchestra sound during live performances at every gig, I wanted to do something more reflective of what we do, and who we are. Not every album has to be a fantasy album; *Home* is the real thing, it is about the people I work with well, my own band and a few other people that I have known for a long time.

LE

Your talented band includes **Michael Kanan** on piano, **Neal Miner** on bass, and your husband, **Rick Montalbano** on drums. How is it working with your husband?

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**JANE**

Everyone always wants me to say that it is hard, but we love working together. It is great because we do work and travel together. Even our 2-year old son, Jack, travels with us when we go on the road.

**LE**

You grew up on Long Island and now live in Upstate New York. For a couple that frequently plays in New York City, as well as internationally, what made you select to live Upstate New York?

**JANE**

What attracted us is that my husband Rick's family lives in Upstate New York. We live in a great house on a lake, and keep an apartment in New York City. We wanted to raise Jack with the best of worlds, freedom, as well as culture.

**LE**

You sing, play the piano, and the trumpet, and Rick plays the drums, do you perhaps have another future musician in your house?

**JANE**

Jack does have his own drum set, and we play music together every day, so who knows.

**LE**

Jane, you have been singing since you were a child. At what age did you know that you wanted to be a professional singer?

**JANE**

Honestly, I have no idea, as I cannot remember a time when I did not want to be a singer. I have always been a singer; it has defined me my entire life. All of my friends know me as a singer.

Singing is highly personal, you leave a part of yourself each time you perform, and give of yourself. I want music to help people process emotions, to lose the numbness of everything. I love to make audiences laugh and cry, and feel that a good show has that catharsis of both.

**LE**

You have been on television, and you have sung on movie soundtracks, what is next?

**JANE**

For now, performing and going on tour to promote my album. Someday, I would love to do musical theatre, and be in a Broadway revival of *Carousel* and play Cousin Nettie.

**LE**

Congratulations on your new album, **Home**. Thank you for taking time out of your schedule to chat with Luxury Experience, and good luck on your European and United States tour.

Read the album review of **Jane Monheit - Home** in the **Music Scene** section.

Websites where you can procure **Jane Monheit - Home**: [www.ConcordMusicGroup.com](http://www.ConcordMusicGroup.com), [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com), [www.BarnesandNoble.com](http://www.BarnesandNoble.com), [www.CDUniverse.com](http://www.CDUniverse.com), and [www.BestBuy.com](http://www.BestBuy.com).

