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## Molly Ringwald at The Iridium, New York City, USA

[Molly Ringwald](#) and her band, **Clayton Cameron**, **Allen Mezquida**, **Peter Smith**, and **Trevor Ware** gave an exciting performance at [The Iridium](#), located in the heart of **Times Square** in **New York** to promote Molly's debut Jazz release, [Molly Ringwald: Except Sometimes](#) on the [Concord Records](#) label.

The Iridium opened on Broadway in the heart of Times Square at the corner of 51st Street in New York City in December 1994, and was home to the legendary guitarist Les Paul who played at the Jazz club from 1996 until his death in 2009. The ambience is like being in a musicians' treasure trove, an enormous Les Paul poster captures the eye, as does the many framed autographed guitars throughout the club, and the signed album covers, square cardboard sleeves with creative cover art that protected vinyl records for those too young to remember that genre.



**Molly Ringwald at The Iridium NYC**

Molly Ringwald, and her band, Clayton Cameron on drums, Allen Mezquida on alto saxophone, Peter Smith on piano, Trevor Ware on bass, opened the set with the first cut off the release, the Steven Sondheim song *Sooner Or Later*, which he wrote for the 1990 movie, *Dick Tracy*, for which he won an Academy Award for Best Song. Although a talented and well-established stage and screen actor, Molly started singing with her father, Jazz pianist Bob Ringwald's band at the age of three, and her stage presence and her vocals rang true to her training as she engaged the audience with her easy repartee.

She segued into the 1930 Jimmy McHugh and Dorothy Fields song, *Exactly Like You*, followed by the heartfelt 1939 song composed by Hoagie Carmichael, *I Get Along Without You Very Well (Except Sometimes)*, with lyrics that she explained had been inspired by a poem entitled, *Except Sometimes*, written by Jane Brown Thompson. Inspiration comes from many sources, and for Hoagie Carmichael, it was a poem, given to him while he was at Indiana University. As the poem did not list the author's name, he enlisted the help of his friend, Walter Winchell, who asked radio listeners for their help in tracking down the person who had written the poem, which ultimately lead to Jane Brown Thompson.



### Allen Mezquida on Saxophone

Joking about the rainy May weather, she flowed into the song, *They Say It's Spring*, which featured nice solos by Allen Mezquida on alto saxophone and Peter Smith on piano, followed by the Ray Noble song *The Very Thought of You*, published in 1934.

As an intro to the Ben Oakland and Oscar Hammerstein II song, *I'll Take Romance*, Molly stated she had sung it on Peter Smith's album, *Here It Comes*, when she was 8 and ½ months pregnant, and on her own release, *Except Sometimes*, when not pregnant. She playfully invited the audience to listen to both recordings and compare which version they preferred. Performed live, with her impressive band, it was hard to compare.



### Peter Smith on Piano

Molly segued into the 1936 song, *Pick Yourself Up*, written by Jerome Kern and Dorothy Fields for the film, *Swing Time*, and the Frank Loesser song, *I Believe In You*. Also in the line-up was the song, *Don't Explain* written by Billie Holiday and Arthur Herzog Jr., *It Never Entered My Mind* from the 1940 Rodgers and Hart musical *Higher and Higher*, *Ask Me How I Feel*, with impressive brush work by drummer Clayton Cameron, whom Molly fittingly referred to as, "the brush master himself."



**Cameron Clayton on Drums**

She continued with the Fran Landsman and Thomas J. Wolf song, *Ballad Of The Sad Young Men*, which featured a nice duet by Peter Smith on piano and Trevor Ware on bass. Explaining that while most of the songs were from The Great American Songbook, she described the last track on the release, *Don't You (Forget About Me)*, as from a great American movie (John Hughes' 1985 movie, *The Breakfast Club*), where fans will remember Molly's memorable role as Claire Standish, which smartly closed the set.



**Trevor Ware on Upright Bass**

Coming back on stage for one last song, Molly sang *On The Street Where You Live*, written by Frederick Loewe and Alan Jay Lerner from the 1956 Broadway musical, *My Fair Lady*, a fitting close for her debut Jazz performance at The Iridium on Broadway.

The Iridium features live music nightly with performances at 8:00 pm and 10:00 pm. There is no age minimum at Iridium and no dress code. Stayovers are welcomed (with manager's approval) for no additional music charge Tuesday through Sunday, (additional minimums will apply). There is food service, cocktails, and wines offered by the bottle as well as by the glass.



### **Molly Ringwald at the Iridium NYC**

Special Student Discount: Students get half price admission on second sets Tuesday through Thursday and on Sunday (and for both sets on Tuesday). For student Discount, do not buy your ticket online, simply call 212-582-2121 and reserve or just walk in and present your ID for half price admission.



#### [The Iridium](#)

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Read the [Molly Ringwald Interview](#) and the review of the release [Molly Ringwald -Expect Sometimes](#) in the [Music Scene](#) section.

Visit **Molly Ringwald's website** for upcoming performances: [www.IAmMollyRingwald.com](http://www.IAmMollyRingwald.com)

Follow **Molly Ringwald** on **Facebook**: [www.Facebook.com/lamMollyRingwald](http://www.Facebook.com/lamMollyRingwald)

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Websites where you can procure [Molly Ringwald: Except Sometimes](#) are [Amazon](#), [CD Universe](#), and [Barnes and Noble](#).

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