

Ron Kaplan

Festival Organizer / Special Events Coordinator / Club Owner

Singer Ron Kaplan is available for concerts, festivals, corporate and special events as guest artist or with ensemble.

Mr. Kaplan's musical style is reminiscent of the great singers of the 1950's continuing the tradition of performing songs from the Great American Songbook.

Critics note Kaplan's phrasing, tone, diction, relaxed style, and his ability to get to the heart of a song with his own mark of musicianship, while featuring superb musicians in his live performances and on his recordings, enjoyed around world.

What the critics are saying...

"Ron Kaplan is an original personality in the world of jazz vocalists and he has managed to put his name into that previously closed inner circle. He has breathed new life into it by the sheer force of his style, for as you know, "the style is the man himself". The Velvet Crooner and the elegant power of his seemingly casual phrasing is in fact, ultra-tight and perfectly seductive." --Jean Szlamowicz, Jazz Hot

"This is one male vocalist destined to become one of the greats in the field. Ron Kaplan is the genuine article." ...D. David Dreis

"The heart and soul of a mature vocalist and leader..." ...Jazz Improv Magazine

"Kaplan phrases with sophisticated ease at any tempo." ...JazzTimes Magazine

"What you have here is one of the most original singers to come along in quite some time from the jazz singing school of Mark Murphy and Tony Bennett polished off with some unique and handy swinging." ... In Tune International

"Jazz singers come and go; few have staying power. Kaplan is one you can bet will be around for some time. First he's a true jazz singer who knows his way around a tune, swinging in the irreverent manner that made singers like Mark Murphy, Jackie Paris and Mel Torme stars. Kaplan's a musician first and foremost using his voice as an integral part of the jazz mode." ...Rapport

"Ron has superb command of a warm and flexible baritone that literally cocoons the listener within the cozy atmosphere of images it creates." ...Jazz Quad

"Kaplan can be linked to the vocalist of the past who merged the Jazz esthetic with the melodic popular element to produce music that appealed to both camps. His light-handed approach and easy singing style are qualities that make him a very likeable commodity." ...Cadence

Some of the artists RK has performed with are Pianists: Shelly Berg, Smith Dobson, Larry Dunlap, Geoff Eales, Tom Garvin, Mark Levine, Pete Malinverni, Larry Vukovich, & Jessica Williams; Bassists: Art Davis, Seward McCain, Stan Poplin, Harvie S. & Tom Warrington; Horn players: Paul Contos, Ted Curson, Erik Jekabson, Noel Jewkes, Dmitri Matheny & Donny McCaslin Jr. & Kenny Stahl; Drummers: Dan Brubeck, Donald Dean, Tootie Heath, Peppe Merolla, Akira Tana & Matt Wilson; and Guitarist: Larry Scala

In addition to his career as a concert performer and recording artist, Ron Kaplan also is the founder and executive director of American Songbook Preservation Society, a non-profit organization whose mission statement is: "To preserve our cultural treasure known as the Great American Songbook by performing this music at home and abroad as Ambassadors of Song." For more information, go to www.greatamericansongbook.org . "The Great American Songbook is full of what is known as popular standards -- great songs written generally between 1920 and 1960, most often for Broadway shows or Hollywood musical films, but sometimes simply in the Tin Pan Alley tradition of pianists and lyricists working together to create quality material for the big bands or the pop singers of the day."

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