



“One of our favorite singers, and certainly one of the best jazz acts in California.”

— ARNALDO DESOUTIERO // JAZZ STATION // JAZZ, BOSSA & BEYOND,
2015

About

Gina Saputo is one of LA's most in demand Jazz singers. A native of Springfield, Oregon, Gina was born to sing and raised in a home full of music. She started training classically at the age of 8 in the Oregon Children's Choir and had her first paying gig at the age of 11. By the age of 15 she was putting together her own groups and regularly singing in jazz clubs, often waiting outside during breaks because she was underage. She went on to study Jazz on scholarship at the University of Southern California and graduate studies at the prestigious Thelonious Monk Institute, now known as the Herbie Hancock Institute.

Now she is an international jazz performer, College instructor, recording artist, session singer, model, actress and three time published author. She is currently finishing her 4th book, *Vocal Technique for Songwriters*, and teaching full time in the Bachelors Department at Musicians Institute in Hollywood, California. On October 19th, 2019, Gina will release her latest record, *Duetto*, on Swingfest Records. She is also featured on Jeff Goldblum's newest record which comes out November 1st on Decca Records. Her appearance on the album was announced on Billboard and Rolling Stone Magazine, amongst others. Gina has performed with Jeff Goldblum for 7 years as a special guest. Her performances with Jeff and his band, The Mildred Snitzer Orchestra, include numerous performances at The Rockwell in Los Feliz, The Arroyo Seco Festival, Campbell Hall, The Wallis, 24 hours of reality with Al Gore, and 2 nights at The Blue Note Hawaii.

Gina has performed all over the world, including for the State Department in Washington, D.C., and toured Viet Nam with Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter and Nnenna Freelon. Gina enjoyed 4 tours in Japan, her last with Grammy nominated pianist Bill Cunliffe. She has performed headlining tours in South Korea 5 times, in Oregon with pianist Benny Green, at Club Nokia at LA Live in Downtown LA, Savannah Jazz Festival with Doc Handy, The Discovery Series in Jacksonville, Florida, with John Lumpkin and the Skywards Dubai International Jazz Festival, She recently taught in Beijing, China, for a music camp and continues to teach clinics as a guest speaker and adjudicate jazz festivals all over the US.

Her first commercial released CD came out in 2004 with rave reviews, "Gina Saputo" featured Gerald Clayton, and climbed to #3 on Japan's Swing Journal charts. Her 2nd CD was promotional release only "Live at the Omni", featured the legendary Plas Johnson on Saxophone. A prize possession amongst few. Her upcoming release is sure to be met with the same success. She won First Place at the Big Stage Vocal Competition and was the vocalist for Orange County Music Awards winning band for Best Jazz in Orange County, 2009, 2010, and nominated with her own band in 2013 and 2014.

She has lived in Los Angeles since moving for college and has become a regular at LA's top jazz clubs, recording sessions and on the LA scene. Recently, Gina was featured performing and appearing in "The last Tycoon" for Amazon through Sony Pictures, where her scene and song were featured on Entertainment weekly's sneak peak. She has been featured on Good Day LA with Western Standard Time Ska Orchestra, B.Glen of OC beauty Magazine featurette, Entertainment Weekly Sneak Peak and a recent interview and performance on LA Talk Radio and has graced the cover of the LA Jazz Scene Newspaper.

Gina recently became the featured vocalist for Disneyland's longest running Swing Orchestra, who have performed at the Royal Swing Ball in Disneyland Park for over 35 years. She also sings at Disney's exclusive Club 33 and The Jazz Kitchen. Gina can be seen performing regularly with actor and pianist Jeff Goldblum and his band, the Mildred Snitzer Orchestra, George Kahn's Jazz and Blues Revue, Paul Young Quintet, Slide Fx Trombone Tentet, Rusty Stiers Band, Tenth and California, Swingtown, Side Street Strutters and her own groups.

For more information, photos, videos please visit...

www.ginasaputo.com

Teaching Experience

Gina is full time faculty in the Bachelors Degree and Vocal departments. She teaches varying courses, open counseling hours and private lessons each quarter. Gina has written 3 Vocal Technique books for the Musicians Institute curriculum.

Current Courses:

- Private Lessons For Bachelors & Vocal Students
- Vocal Performance 330, 430 Bachelors
- Vocal Technique 021, 022, 110 And 210 (Levels 1-4) All Degrees
- Vocal Technique for Songwriters
- Sight Singing 012, 022, 120, 220 (Levels 1-4) All Degrees
- Accent Reduction



Vocal Technique 1- This Book Is Co-Written. Covering The Basics Of Vocal Health And Beginner Technique. The Book Includes Helpful Illustrations, Imagery And Video Links.

Including: Breathing, Anatomy, Tone, Resonation, Placement, Vocal Registers, Diction, Vowels, Practice Regiments, Repertoire Approach, Vocal Health And Warmups.

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Vocal Technique 2- Covering Advanced Concepts Of Vocal Health And Technique. The Book Includes Helpful Illustrations, Imagery And Video Links.

Including: Range Development, Advanced Registers, Warmups, Bel Canto, Passaggio Training, Ear Training, Agility, Riffs & Melismas, Flexibility, Phrasing, Sightsinging, Vibrato, Advanced Resonance, Tonal Colors, Singing Harmony, Background Vocals, Endurance, And Advanced Vocal Health.

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Vocal Technique 3- Covering Advanced Vocal Technique Concepts In Regards To Diction, Articulation, Language, And Tone. The Book Includes Helpful Illustrations, Imagery And Video Links.

Including: International Phonetic Alphabet, Consonant And Vowel Articulation, Poem Recitation, American Standard Pronunciation, Stresses, Organs Of Speech, Glottal Attacks, Onsets, Optimum Speech Pitch Range, Vowel Quantification, Plosives Vs. Implosives, Diphthongs And R-Colorations, Language And Practical Application Of These Techniques. This Book Also Includes Lessons On Singing In Foreign Languages. Including: Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, French, Latin, And German.

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Outside Courses and Clinics:

Fullerton College Jazz Festival- Adjudicator, Fullerton, CA. 2016, 2018, 2019
 Reno Jazz Festival- Adjudicator & Clinician, Reno, Nevada. 2018, 2020
 Santa Monica College- Clinician, Santa Monica, CA. 2019
 Music-ing Camp- Clinician, writer, performer, Beijing, China. 2018
 Soul And Song Retreat- Guest Clinician, Nashville, TN. 2011
 Encore Music Academy- Performance Master Class, La Mirada, CA. 2011
 Bethesda Christian University- Pop Vocal Professor, Santa Ana, CA. 2009
 Gwangju University- Gwangju, South Korea. Guest Professor 2008
 Los Angeles Music Academy- Los Angeles, CA. Sub 2008

McKinley Elementary- Music Education And Conducting, Santa Monica, CA 2006-2007
Vietnam Tour- Elementary And College Level Clinics, Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam. 2005
Vietnam Tour- Elementary And College Level Clinics, Hanoi, Vietnam. 2005
Washington Prep High School, Monk Institute- South Los Angeles, CA. 2005
JazzReach, Elementary To High School, - Los Angeles, CA. 1999-2003

Private Voice Teaching Experience:

Musicians Institute, Hollywood, CA. 2013- Present
Personal Home Studio And Facetime Lessons, Montrose, CA. 2014-Present
Gina Saputo Vocal Studio, Long Beach, CA. 2011-2014
Selected Students Homes And Personal Home Studios, CA. 2002-Present
Rockstars Music Academy- Huntington Beach, CA. 2009-2012
Encore School Of Music- La Mirada, CA. 2008- 2010
Bethesda Christian University- Santa Ana, CA. 2009
Silverlake Conservatory- Silverlake, CA. Regular Sub 2007-2009
Gwangju University- Gwangju, South Korea. Guest Professor 2008
Grayson's Tune Town- Montrose, CA. Regular Sub 2005-2008
Washington Prep High School, Thelonious Monk Institute- South Los Angeles, CA. 2005

Private Piano/Guitar Teaching Experience:

Student Homes and Personal Home Studios, CA. 2002-Present
Silverlake Conservatory- Silverlake, CA. Regular Sub 2007-2009
Grayson's Tune Town- Montrose, CA. Regular Sub 2005-2008

Choral Conducting Experience:

Trinity Baptist Choir, Adult, Trinity Baptist Church- Santa Monica, CA.
Occasional Sub 2008- 2011
Agape Choir, High School Level, Rivers Community Church- Agoura, CA. 2008
McKinley Elementary, Music Education and Conducting- Santa Monica, CA. 2006-2007
The Melodairs- Springfield High School- Springfield, OR. Student Director 1997-1999
Concert Chorale- Springfield High School- Springfield, OR. Student Director 1997-1999
Kaleidoscope- Springfield High School- Springfield, OR. Student Director 1997-1999

Education

University of Southern California, Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies, voice. 2003
Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, fall semester 2005

Studying under Terri Lyn Carrington, Herbie Hancock, Carmen Lundy, Wayne Shorter, Stefon Harris, Wallace Roney, Hal Crook, and Ron Carter.

Private Vocal Studies with Carmen Lundy, Tierney Sutton, Carmen Bradford, Ariel, Nnenna Freelon, Stacy Swartout, Glenn Carlos and Jennifer Barnes-Shelton.

Private jazz piano with Alan Pasqua, Anne Farnsworth, and David Arnay.
Jazz Aspen Snowmass, Jazz Academy, Aspen, Colorado. 2003

Conducting lessons with Stacy Swartout

Awards

Best Jazz in Orange County- Nominee, Gina Saputo, Orange County Music Awards 2014, 2013

Best Jazz in Orange County- Winner as Band Member of THSB, Orange County Music Awards, 2009, 2010

First Place, Big Stage Vocal Competition, 2009

National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts, jazz vocal awardee 1999

SHO Performing Arts Awardee, 1998

Gina regularly gives Television/radio/Magazine and newspaper interviews, and performances regularly across the US. and internationally including headlining performances and clinics in Washington D.C., Colorado, Oregon, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, California, Japan, Korea, the United Arab Emirates and Viet nam.

Headlining Highlights...

Blue Note Hawaii with Jeff Goldblum, 2 nights 2019

24 hours of Reality with Jeff Goldblum, 2018

Festival of the Arts, Laguna, CA, (annually) 2010- present

Oxnard Performing Arts Center with George Kahn Jazz and Blues Revue, 2017

Arroyo Seco Music Festival, Pasadena, California with Jeff Goldblum, 2017

Jazz Discovery Series, Jacksonville, Florida. 2015

The Wallis with Jeff Goldblum, 2015

Los Angeles Contemporary Museum of Art, 3 performances 2014-2015

Steamers Jazz Club, Fullerton, CA. (monthly) 2001-2015

The Hip Kitty (monthly) 2008- 2014

Seoul and Busan Tour with Yoon Seung Cho, South Korea 2013

Tribute to Billie Holiday, Torrance Cultural Arts, Torrance, CA 2013

Savannah Jazz Festival, Savanna, GA 2012

October Jazz in Seoul, Seoul, Korea 2012
First & Hope Supper Club Downtown LA, CA.(monthly)2008- 2012
Ambrosia Supper Club (weekly) CA. 2008-2010
Club Nokia at LALive with Gina Saputo's Electronic Jazz Orchestra, CA. 2009
Skywards Dubai International Jazz Festival, UAE. 2009
The Wildish Theatre with Benny Green, Springfield, OR. 2008
Disney Hall for Los Angeles Philharmonic Society, 2008
Japan Tour (10 days) with Bill Cunliffe, Sept 2008
Gwangju University Performance Hall, Gwangju, Korea (15 days), 2008
Japan Tour (10 Days) with Annie Sellick and Nicole Henry, April 2008
Viet Nam Tour (10 days) Thelonious Monk Institute 2005
The Bay Lounge, Hyatt Regency (3 months), Osaka, Japan 2003-2004

Also in CA: Catalina Bar and Grill -young artist Jazz series, The Jazz Bakery, The Edison, Angel's Supper Club, The Lighthouse, The Blue Whale, 2nd Street Jazz, Granata's, Galli's piano Bar, California Club, Spazio, The Knitting Factory, The Moneytree, and Lucy 51.

Featured Performances with...

Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Nnenna Freelon, Bill Cunliffe, Benny Green, Jeff Goldblum, Plas Johnson, Nolan Shaheed, Joe Bagg, Kamasi Washington, Tim Horner, Martin Wind, Shelton Berg, Mike Denny, Alan Chang (Michael Buble, MD.), Gretchen Parlato, Jerry Quickly (Def Poetry), Terence Blanchard, Ambrose Akinmusire, the Thelonious Monk Institute, Gerald Clayton, Taylor Eigste, Nicole Henry, Sara Gazarek, Annie Sellick, Frank Stallone, Izzy Chait, Yoon Seung Cho, The Translucent Ham Sandwich Band, Woody Herman Alumni and Trinity Baptist Choir.

Backup vocals for Barbara Streisand in the 2002 Emmy Awards, Kurt Elling, Bonnie Raitt, Barry Manilow, Izzy Chait, Frank Stallone, and Louis Bellson



“Jazz vocalist Gina Saputo first began performing at the age of eight, singing with the Oregon Children’s Choir. By her teens, Saputo was singing in jazz clubs. While at University of Southern California, she was mentored by the likes of Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, and Terri Lynn Carrington. Since then, Saputo has established herself as a formidable presence on the jazz scene, gigging nationally as well as in Dubai, Japan, and South Korea.”

- All That Jazz Pick Of The Week, Folio Weekly Magazine

People are saying....

“In a crowded field of young female jazz singers, Saputo’s soaring vocals and rhythmic lift suggest that she’s ready to step up from the pack.”

Don Heckman – Pick of the Week
International Review of Music, Sept. 4th, 2009

“Gina Saputo....is considered to be a rising star by many jazz enthusiasts.”

Carl Woideck, KLCC 89.7 NPR

“I particularly enjoyed the opportunity to hear the young American vocalist Gina Saputo...”

Kevin Cook, The Gulf News
2009 Skywards Dubai International Jazz Festival Review

“Gina has the passion as well as the talent to stretch and think outside the box.”

Tierney Sutton, Grammy Nominated Recording Artist

“Gina’s approach to singing conveys the balance of a deep appreciation and respect for the melodic essence of a song, with an individual, creative, and exploratory nature which is completely her own.”

Benny Green, pianist, clinician

“Gina led her band on a journey...It was extremely moving to me, as it was her own personal expression, completely in the musical moment, taking risks and chances, always landing on her feet.”

Gretchen Parlato, Thelonious Monk vocal competition winner and Institute alumni.

“..one of the best up and coming acts in LA.”

Orange County Register

“Gina Saputo sings ‘Round Midnight’...her voice is very smooth...lyrical....”

2005 Viet Nam Tour Review

About her debut CD “Gina Saputo”.....

“It’s a relaxing yet thrilling album...we enjoy her technique and intelligence...she sings skillfully and lively....”

Keizo Takada – Swing Journal, Japan

“She grabs a listener’s heart ...she has a rich and attractive voice...her medium to up tempo swing is outstanding.”

JazzLife - April, 2008

“I imagined a whisper voice from her lovely looks on her jacket. But she powerfully sings with a well trained alto voice.”

CD Journal – April, 2008

DISCOGRAPHY

Bandleader

GINA SAPUTO "LIVE AT THE OMNI", GSJQ PRODUCTIONS, 2012
(PROMOTIONAL USE ONLY, LIMITED PRESSING- 350 COPIES) OUT OF PRINT

GINA SAPUTO "SWINGIN' ON A STAR" +BONUS TRACKS, JAPAN, MUZAK RECORDS, 2005

GINA SAPUTO "SWINGIN' ON A STAR", GSJQ PRODUCTIONS, 2004
(LIMITED PRESSING- 3,500 COPIES) OUT OF PRINT

GINA SAPUTO "LIVE AT CATALINA", GSJQ PRODUCTIONS, 2003
(EXCLUSIVE PRESSING - 100 COPIES) OUT OF PRINT

GINA SAPUTO JAZZ QUARTET, EP, GSJQ PRODUCTIONS, 1998
(LIMITED PRESSING- 700 COPIES) OUT OF PRINT



Band Member

GEORGE KAHN JAZZ & BLUES REVUE, PLAYING RECORDS, 2014
LEAD VOCAL- TRACKS 1,5,8

CO-LEAD VOCAL- TRACKS 6,11,13

BACKGROUND VOCAL- TRACKS 2, 4, 7, 10

TENTH & CALIFORNIA "ANGEL'S SINGING IN THE DARK", 2015
LEAD VOCAL- TRACK 7

TRIO- TRACK 6

BACKGROUND VOCAL-VARIOUS TRACKS

SHAKEDOWN LULU WHITE, EP, POCKET PRODUCTIONS, 2006
(LIMITED PRESSING- 400 COPIES) OUT OF PRINT

LEAD VOCAL- ALL TRACKS

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Guest Artist

TONY GUERRERO QUINTET "THE THING IS", SWINGFEST RECORDS, 2015
LEAD VOCAL- TRACKS 4, 9

JOCELYN MICHELLE "TIME TO PLAY" SUMMIT RECORDS, 2015
LEAD VOCAL- TRACKS 5

MATT YEAKLEY GROUP "DIRTY WORDS" ORENDA RECORDS, 2014
LEAD VOCAL- TRACK 2

KYUNG MIN KIM "TODAY, A GIFT OF TOMORROW" LON MUSIC, 2013
LEAD VOCAL- TRACKS 1, 7

BRAD PARK "BEAUTIFUL" KOREAN RELEASE, 2012
DUET- TRACK 8

JOEL CLEMONS & THE LEMONS "CHRISTMAS TRIM", FLEUR DE LIS RECORDS, 2003.
DUET AND VARIOUS BACKUP VOCALS

