

CAROLYN LEE JONES

“This oxymoron, Fresh Vintage, quite accurately conveys the character of the vocalist’s repertoire and the niche that she occupies on the jazz scene.”

-**Jazz Quad Review Europe**

Early- Though music was a large part of Carolyn Lee Jones’ formative years in Nebraska, she was lured to the big city of Dallas pursuing a career with luxury retailers. Because she happily traveled the world as a Buyer, her exposure too and the love of music never ceased. Carolyn sought out opportunities to sing in NYC and abroad, while flourishing successfully in her first profession. “I knew that one day I’d be a full-time classic jazz- vintage pop vocalist so, it was just a matter of when! Retailing was another type of show business!”

Pro- Her choice to be a jazz-pop vocalist and bandleader was a natural next step. She burst on to the jazz scene in 2008 and is living proof that it is possible to reinvent yourself. From classic jazz to vintage pop, she makes the standards sound new and the new sound standard. Carolyn performs with her groups; Fresh Vintage Jazz, The Satin Dolls Band and In Full Swing 8 pc to big band.

Recording- Carolyn’s rich, silky vocals and extensive repertoire have endeared her to fans and critics. She has released *four nationally reviewed CD’s on the independent Cat’n’round Sound label and 4 singles.* With The New Collection a cappella jazz group, a separate album was released led by vocal jazz arranger and Professor Emeritus, Paris Rutherford of the University of North Texas Vocal Jazz Department.





Christmas Time is Here

CAROLYN LEE JONES

“**The Christmas Song**” is approached as a fresh take with a classic bossa nova feel, trimmed with a melodic solo by guitar and piano and Jones’ warming voice. You can feel the chestnuts roasting. While “**Christmas Time Is Here**” is given a pensive nostalgia. Of note is the bowed bass and cello adding a layer of sweetness to the sonic palette.

“**Warm In December**” is a little gem found on a Julie London recording, here with a smooth trombone solo accenting a warm vocal. The playful “**Jingles The Christmas Cat**” is a swinging number, especially for the cat lover in us all. A classic throughout the year has now become a holiday go-to, “**You’d Be So Nice to Come Home To**” adds a lilt with trumpet and piano solos, along with vocal and instrumental unisons for a nice change of pace on this classic Cole Porter gem.

Love during the holidays offers a particular sweetness, “**I’d Like You For Christmas**” explores the oldest wish for the holiday, the love of that special someone. This tune is a sultry Christmas song written for Julie London by her jazzier husband, Bobby Troup. Originally in 4/4 but reimagined as a 3/4 jazz waltz with a tenor saxophone solo. “**Merry Christmas Baby**” offers a large ensemble sound with a classic shuffle feel reminiscent of late vintage 50’s sound and a burning baritone solo.

A new tune, destined to be a classic, “**Red Christmas,**” is a thoroughly lighthearted lyric. A little-known song pokes fun at holiday spending by a prolific singer-songwriter and a personal friend of Miss Jones’, Jeanie Perkins. But, of course, no holiday album would be complete without “**Santa Baby,**” Jones gives the tune a classic take from the instrumentation approach to her easy going, sultry-slinky vocal. The song has a slow cook that sizzles, replete with a solid bass groove and a swinging sax and horn section.

For those that hope for snow each year during the holidays, “**White Christmas**” is given a contemporary feel with a smooth-jazz arrangement, backed by a string section and inspirational sax and B3 grooves. “**Toyland,**” from the operetta Babes in Toyland, was performed for the first time live in 1903. Jones gives the song a bossa nova feel, combined with dreamy string instrumentation and the low brass of trombone in a soft and delicate style. The album concludes with “**Count Your Blessings (Instead of Sheep).**” Jones gives the selection an easy-going swing in a classic trio setting, with hip bass and piano solos, tying up the album with a swinging essence that ends in a cheery punctuation.

Players, Instruments, Tracks:

Brad Williams: piano (all), B3 (7), celeste (10)
Jonathan Fisher: bass (1,3) cello (2)
Andrew Griffith: drums (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12)
Tom Burchill: guitar (1, 2, 5)
Steven Heffner: bass (3, 4, 6, 12)
Todd Parsnow: guitar (3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11)
Tony Baker: trombone (3, 7, 9, 11)
Keith Jordan: Fluegelhorn (5), trumpet (7)
Shelley Carrol: saxophone (6)
Lynn Seaton: bass (7, 8, 9, 10, 11)
Dennis Durick: drums, percussion (7, 8, 9, 10, 11)
Mario Cruz: saxophone (7, 9, 10)
Dave Monsch: baritone sax (7, 9), alto flute (11)
Veronica Gan: violins (10, 11)
Imelda Tecson: viola (10, 11)
Buffi Jacobs: cello (10, 11)

Tracks & Times:

- 1 Christmas Song (The) 4:04
- 2 Christmas Time Is Here 3:15
- 3 Warm In December 3:34
- 4 Jingles The Christmas Cat 2:53
- 5 You’d Be So Nice to Come Home To 3:36
- 6 I’d Like You For Christmas 3:34
- 7 Merry Christmas Baby 3:08
- 8 Red Christmas 2:56
- 9 Santa Baby 4:06
- 10 White Christmas 4:07
- 11 Toyland 3:43
- 12 Count Your Blessings (Instead Of Sheep) 3:13

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One sheet by:

