

MELISSA ERRICO



"The Maria Callas of American musical theater," as Opera News has called her, referencing both her crystalline voice and dramatic, expressive intensity, **Melissa Errico** is a Tony Award-nominated Broadway star -- an actress, singer and author who contributes regularly to The New York Times. The Wall Street Journal recently referred to her as a "nonpareil cabaret singer."

First known for her starring roles on Broadway, including *My Fair Lady*, *High Society* and *Les Misérables*, her recent album, *Sondheim Sublime*, was called by The Wall Street Journal "The best all-Sondheim album ever recorded." Errico's history with Sondheim began when he selected her to star as Dot in *Sunday In The Park With George* at The Kennedy Center, and she has since co-starred as Clara in *Passion* at Classic Stage Company and in the NY City Center Encores! production of the Sondheim/Rodgers musical *Do I Hear A Waltz?* In April 2020, she appeared in the much-talked about Sondheim 90th Birthday Concert with Broadway.com and in May, was featured on the *PBS Poetry in America* episode about Sondheim which featured Melissa singing "Finishing the Hat." In addition to Sondheim, nothing in her work has been more constant than her association with composer Michel Legrand. Having starred in his sole Broadway show, *Amour*, she went on to collaborate with him on the iconic album *Legrand Affair*. After his death in 2019, she was asked to write his eulogy by The New York Times and was then invited to be the sole American performer in the extraordinary two-day memorial to Legrand held in April, 2019 at Paris' Le Grand Rex Theatre. Warner Music/Ghostlight Records recently reissued her symphonic album, which Legrand arranged & conducted, as *Legrand Affair (Deluxe Edition)*.

Even at the height of the pandemic, she managed to keep her voice and presence alive to her audience. Not only offering multiple live-streams and conversations -- teaching master classes for students across the country and producing a delicious at-home cooking show "The Honest Cook" on Instagram—she has also been amazingly busy with concert and on-line cabaret, including an often-singled-out appearance on the Sondheim birthday special, and a holiday program for the Bay Street Theater that the Wall Street Journal called "a fetching performance in which her radiant singing and impeccable diction were shown off to ideal effect." Her plans for the coming year include an expanded collection of her Times series, "Scenes From An Acting Life", a series of concerts and a film festival for New York's Alliance Française, and the development of her own dramatic one woman show for NYC's Irish Rep.

"Any chance to hear Melissa Errico sing is a chance worth taking." – **The New York Times**

"Melissa has the power to take a sumptuous Broadway ballad to the moon & back!" – **The New York Times**

"Ethereal, gorgeous, elegant, popular...with inward emotion and real artistry." – **The New York Times**

"Stunningly beautiful...she is one of the best singing actors we have. Everything she sings is sublime."

– **The Wall Street Journal**

"No concert in which the irresistible Ms. Errico appears could ever be anything other than worth seeing."

– **The Wall Street Journal**

"Errico's lush soprano is a seduction in itself." – **The Village Voice**

"Earthy and soulful, she sparkles." – **USA Today**

"A classy classic sound, with taste and imagination." – **The Washington Post**

"A Melissa Errico concert is a fine port in any storm." – **NY Post**

Amount & After — Melissa Errico's association with multi-Oscar-winning composer Michel Legrand is best described as Muse Meets Maestro, making her one of the premier interpreters of his sexy, utterly French songbook-- including the erotic "The Summer Knows," and other classics such as "Windmills Of Your Mind" and "What Are You Doing The Rest Of Your Life?" In this concert Ms. Errico draws you in -- with one swoop! -- to a unique musical experience, at once a heartfelt tribute, a jazz party & a delicious French cabaret. This one-of-a-kind singing actress is also a regular columnist for The New York Times, and so, talking smart in her trademark slinky dresses, has been called "Jessica Rabbit with a PHD." She'll sing mostly Legrand but take several swinging turns with other Paris lovers, like Cole Porter and Lerner & Loewe, as well as singing from Stephen Sondheim's own Paris classics. From "Everybody Loves Louis" & "Finishing the Hat," to "I Love Paris" & "Papa Can You Hear Me?" and "How Do You Keep The Music Playing?", expect soaring vocals, inside theater gossip, artistry, musicality—all with extraordinary warmth. No one who loves Paris, French style, Michel Legrand or just Broadway singing at its best could consider missing this show. Come and find out why one critic not long ago called Melissa Errico, "The Maria Callas of the American musical theater." Get ready for a true French kiss of a night!

"One of the most moving and even thrilling cabaret shows I've ever seen. When Miss Errico sings the work of the late and much-missed Michel Legrand, you just want to climb up inside one of her songs and stay there for the rest of your life." – **The Wall Street Journal**

"Nobody is like Melissa Errico...she interprets Michel Legrand's work in ways no other artist ever has...her understanding of Monsieur Legrand and the way his nationality informed his artistry is most definitely reflected in both her perception and performance of his music...for the entirety of her show, Errico was like a glass of Veuve Clicquot, effervescent and intoxicating, always beautiful...Melissa Errico is and will continue to be the premiere interpreter of the musical legacy of Michel Legrand. She's talented, charismatic and knows how to work a crowd." – **BroadwayWorld**

"Errico, bursting with passion for her mentor, delivered a rich feast of reminiscences and anecdotes in her distinct "talking cabaret" style, as well as sumptuous song, in which she totally lost herself, sometimes literally becoming the music. Her voice is crystalline and clarion, as silvery and refreshing as a mountain stream, and she did a segue from "His Eyes, Her Eyes" to the lulling, sensual "The Summer Knows" that took my breath away." – **Gay City News**

"A gob-smacking stunner! The actress-singer is absolutely on fire, in superb voice and utterly at the top of her game. As a total performer she's mesmerizing, vibrant, engaging...but more than that, she has the uncanny ability to actually inhabit a song. The glorious voice, the charm, wit, and complete authenticity is the enchanting package that is Melissa Errico. To be bathed in all of this, plus her deep love for Michel Legrand, is not only to be supremely entertained but to have shared in a truly special experience of stellar proportions" – **Theater Pizzazz**

Melissa Sings Sondheim — This is Melissa's bread and butter, or maybe toast and caviar, show. It received rave reviews in New York and London and Sondheim himself has been directly involved as both consultant and contributor. It is a "cabernessay"- not just a set list of Sondheim songs - but a show where Melissa discussed Sondheim's craft, his biography, and his meanings with great comic insight.

"She sings beautifully. Her familiarity with the way Sondheim's songs work to advance character and story in vivo naturally informs her in vitro style, which is actorly to begin with. An attention to the lyrics and their rush of harsh "wisdoms" was Ms. Errico's keynote. She refreshed cabaret staples, and lightly jazzed others, demonstrating how the meaning that is locked in tiny verbal gestures can be released with bold phrasing." – **The New York Times**

"Stunned into an amazing feeling of having witnessed something life changing, life enhancing and of incredible beauty...an unforgettable evening. Her artistry is beyond superb. She is quite the Maria Callas of the American Musical, illuminating this music like no other. The show was simply a lesson in greatness and interpretive genius, not to mention beautiful music making." – **Opera News**

"Melissa Errico has that very rare combination of beauty, humor, graceful motion on stage and, of course, the marvelous sound of her voice. She has a lovely soprano sound, and her voice rises to the occasion...her love of Sondheim's work comes through in every song and her excellent enunciation makes each of Sondheim's lyrics especially meaningful. She shows great confidence on stage and her Sondheim concert is meaningful, dramatic and often hilariously funny!" – **Cabaret Scenes**

"Errico quickly had a full house eating out of her hand as she intersperses personal stories about her subject with 18 great Stephen Sondheim songs. Every number is a joy... There is a wonderful stillness about Errico when she performs, leaving the songs to speak for themselves, complementing the purity of her voice. Songs apart, she's undeniably funny. The anecdotes tumble out in this well-rehearsed show with some inspired arrangements by musical director Tedd Firth." – **Musical Theater Review**

"This show took audiences on a journey that transcended vocal craft...with a magic that lifted the audience far off the ground. Through Errico's unique combination of insights and talent (and also her surprising gift for gutsy humor), she manages to make Sondheim both profound & engaging and importantly, entertaining and enjoyable." – **BroadwayWorld**

"A glorious evening, a voice that knocks your socks off, a rippling stream of clear, crystal notes with a beautiful cadence and a purring, rich vibrato. Add to this her genuineness and humor and you've got a voice and personality that captivates the heart & soul." – **Theater Pizzazz**

Season For Joy (Holiday Show) — Every holiday show promises to be something different, but *Season For Joy* really will be—thanks to the glamour, sass, and class of the incomparable Tony Award-nominee Melissa Errico. The star of Broadway's *White Christmas* will take the stage to deliver an unforgettable evening of holiday songs that will be as joyful and diverse as it is touching and emotional. Melissa will greet the *Season For Joy* by singing and swinging her way through holiday classics, Christmas favorites, and great American standards. With the inimitable storyteller style, that has made her a favorite amongst The New York Times contributors, Melissa will spin a few tales throughout the evening: about why the greatest Christmas songs are always recorded in mid-July; how they've been mostly written by American Jewish songwriters; and how the winter holidays continue to unite us all. Melissa brings a holiday concert that promises to bring joy to the entire family as we embrace the beauty of the holidays.

"*Season For Joy* is her home-cooked version of one of the meet-the-kids celebrity Christmas TV specials with which my generation grew up, featuring "special material" by Adam Gopnik (including a deliciously naughty parody of Mel Tormé's 'The Christmas Song'). Accompanied by Tedd Firth, her music director and a pianist of the highest quality, Ms. Errico gives a fetching performance in which her radiant singing and impeccable diction are shown off to ideal effect." – **The Wall Street Journal**

"Errico and her stalwart partner and accompanist, Tedd Firth, have created and performed a holiday concert that is inventive, funny, touching, sweet, sardonic and has just the right amount of cabaret glamour." – **EDGE Media**

"Melissa Errico is a star - and in this show, she was a Christmas star...it was all style, class and holiday spirit, drawing her audience in to experience her talents, her grace and her charm...what makes this show a winner is not only the quality of Errico's talents, or that she is flawless in her presentation of the songs, but it's the way she bantered in between the songs." – **Hamptons.com**

"You know her, you love her, you can't live without her and if you don't know, love, and live for La Errico, you should. This is a lady who lives to perform and has the chops to go from stage, to screen, and from small venues to large, and now she lights up the virtual platform with her Holiday show *Season For Joy*, a fully realized concert with the brilliant Tedd Firth, mixing his wonderful arrangements with Errico's crystalline voice." – **BroadwayWorld**

CONTACT: Mark Cortale / markcortale@gmail.com / 917.538.7341