

Sentimental Ladies by Nancy Bizjack

Three of Tulsa's most accomplished and popular vocalists are staging one-night-only SummerStage cabaret shows in the Norman Theatre in July and August. Each has her own style, but they all have a mutual respect for each other and for the music. They've attended each other's gigs and sung on each other's CDs. And don't be surprised if you see them ushering at each other's SummerStage shows.

Janet Rutland: Recipe for Love

July 14 at 7:30 p.m.

TICKETS: \$12; \$15 FOR TABLE SEATING

Well known to Tulsa theatre-goers for her acclaimed appearances in American Theatre Company's *Always... Patsy Cline*, *Honky Tonk Angels* and *My Way: A Tribute to*



Frank Sinatra, Janet is one of Tulsa's most popular and versatile vocalists. Along with her theatre roles, she manages a busy schedule singing at area clubs and restaurants.

Janet's SummerStage cabaret *'Wonderful* sold out last year. This year she returns with an all-new show featuring vintage jazz and pop standards.

"This time around I've added some Carole King and Burt Bacharach material — things from my youth," she explains. "And it's a different band, a trio led by Randy Wimer."

PAM ON JANET: "I have known Janet for many years as she's done things for the Tulsa Jazz Society. She's really a good entertainer and has a great repertoire and is a really wonderful gal. I did a duet with her at her last SummerStage show. We did 'Moondance' together, and then she put it on her CD, so that was really fun."

REBECCA ON JANET: "I love her style. She has such a way with a lyric, as far as telling the story. I've just been a big fan for a long time."

Pam Van Dyke: Jazzical & Class

August 6 at 5 p.m.

TICKETS: \$12; \$15 FOR TABLE SEATING

Pam Van Dyke went from small-town Oklahoma to singing with the OU Entertainers to touring the country with the Sammy Kaye Orchestra in the late '60s. The band was based in New York, where Pam later found her niche as a jazz singer.



Pam eventually made her way back to Oklahoma, where she has continued to wow audiences with her velvety voice. She is a founder and current president/creative director of the Tulsa Jazz Society as well as the vocalist for her own group, Pam Van Dyke and Friends. She also sings with the bands Swinghouse and Sentimental Journey and with the Sonny Gray Quartet.

In *Jazzical and Class*, Pam unwraps the layers of her career with the help of her backup trio, which includes her husband, bassist Bill Crosby.

JANET ON PAM: "Pam did a number with me in my cabaret show last year; that's how highly I think of her. To me, she is the first lady of jazz. She's just a treasure, the best. There's nobody better."

REBECCA ON PAM: "Pam Van Dyke Crosby, my friend, my friend. To me it is just being friends with an idol, because I've always said she's Tulsa's Rosemary Clooney. She has perfect phrasing. I've never heard her sing a song the same way twice. She's fascinating and she's my buddy. I have absolutely adored getting to know Pam. Pam's just... Pam's the best!"

Rebecca Ungerman: Never Before Released

August 10 at 7:30 p.m.

TICKETS: \$15; \$30 FOR TABLE SEATING

Rebecca Ungerman sang for three years with jump blues band Blue Combo, opening for Little Richard at the Cain's Ballroom and playing throughout Oklahoma and surrounding states.



Never Before Released is a completely original show, with songs written by Rebecca, her musical directors and back-up band members Frank Brown and Terry Cooper, and also Mike Day and Steve Elmore. Rebecca says the title of her show has a double meaning; none of the songs has been released on a CD, and she is unleashing her imagination like never before.

"Cabaret is always the most creative thing I do every year," she says.

PAM ON REBECCA: "I first heard Rebecca with Blue Combo and have since gotten to really know her as a good friend, and I admire her as a writer. She has a great personality and I really like watching her and listening to her. She also does some really good songs. I was a chorus member on her CD *I Just Want...*"

JANET ON REBECCA: "Rebecca has a marvelous voice. She's a powerhouse! When I saw her recently at Lola's, I was very impressed with her song selection. She does all the stuff I love: the old Johnny Mercer tunes, Gershwin and all that stuff, that era."