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Jerry Vale

with

Anna Maria Alberghetti

The Center for Performing Arts

AT GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
The Center for Performing Arts
Governors State University

Jeffrey Ortmann, Acting Executive Director

presents

Jerry Vale®

with

Anna Maria Alberghetti

March 7, 1997

Jerry Vale

Genaro Louis Vitaliano enjoys a well deserved reputation as one of the finest singers of romantic music today. If Vitaliano's name doesn't sound familiar to you, perhaps it's because professionally, he is recognized around the globe as Jerry Vale.

Jerry was born in the rough and tumble section of New York City's Bronx borough and by the age of twelve he was already singing and shining shoes at a local barbershop to supplement the family income.

Jerry has become "The Ambassador of Song" for contemporary romantic music and as such, he performs upwards of thirty weeks a year in the world's most prestigious resorts, theaters and cabarets. Whether he's singing a gentle love song on stage in Atlantic City or stirring a sell-out audience at Yankee Stadium with his patriotic rendition of The National Anthem, Jerry is always sharing a unique form of vocal artistry which is rarely equaled.

First and foremost, Jerry Vale is a romantic singer. Perhaps this is why he enjoys his affectionate nickname, "The Silver Fox." When asked about his ability to conjure up romantic images among his female listeners, Jerry says "There's too little romance and beauty in the world today. If through my music, I provide working people with the opportunity to escape, then I'm pleased."

Jerry began to sing in public when he was eleven years old. He seized every chance to perform and like many young men, his school and church offered many opportunities for him to develop.

Jerry's musical talent was an antidote for the juvenile delinquency, which surrounded his young world. Today Jerry says "I was a rough and tumble youngster, ready to fight at the drop of a hat. But I had two things in my favor. First, my parents kept strict tabs on where and whom I was with. Second, I became so involved in performing in school and in church programs, that I was too busy to be bad."
That background of parental supervision, education and religious commitment formed the responsible citizen that Jerry Vale is today. Together with his wife Rita, Jerry works tirelessly to benefit multiple causes including the Arthritis Foundation, the prevention of child abuse and neglect, Heart Association and Cancer Fund. “I’ve been given a great deal by the public. If I can give something back then I feel I’m meeting my responsibility,” he explains.

Jerry’s big break came at age sixteen when he entered, and to his surprise, won a talent contest. As a result of his win, he began earning ten dollars per night as a weekend singer at a small nightclub. Thus began Jerry Vale’s professional career, a career which has brought him SRO audiences around the world, multiple Gold Records, a distinguished presence as a spokesperson for the giants of American Business and a legion of adoring fans.

Jerry spends his time between two luxurious homes in Beverly Hills and Palm Springs, California with his wife Rita. The Vale family is completed by son Robert and daughter Pamela.

He is a frequent special guest of the “Late Night With David Letterman” show and became the program’s unofficial good-luck charm during their week long telecasts from Las Vegas and Chicago. Jerry is also frequently seen on the television shows, “Growing Pains,” “Midnight Caller” and “Who’s The Boss.” His music has appeared in many motions pictures, including James Toback’s cult-classic “Fingers” and Rodney Dangerfield’s comedy, “Easy Money.” He is most proud of his recent appearance in Martin Scorsese’s Academy Award winning film, “Goodfellas.”

Jerry Vale serves as president of his own production company, Jerifka Productions. Jerry looks forward to spending the upcoming year developing television and feature film projects and “working as an actor in any good project that I find.”

Anna Maria Alberghetti

Anna Maria Alberghetti was born in Pesaro, Italy. Her background is a musical one. Her father was a concert cellist under Toscanini and Director of a Conservatory of Music in Rome. Her mother was a concert pianist.

Anna made her singing debut in Italy at the age of six and toured throughout the major cities of Europe. She made her United States debut at Carnegie Hall at the age of thirteen and the New York Times hailed her as “An Angel From Paradise.”

After achieving a highly successful career which was highlighted by winning the coveted Antoinette Perry (Tony) Award as Best Actress in a Broadway Musical she temporarily relinquished her role of singer and actress for the roles of wife and mother. However, her face remained before the public as spokeswoman for Good Season’s Italian Salad Dressing and her name became a household word on television.

Anna Maria resumed her career in a nationwide Tour of “Sound of Music” and triumphed as the heroine, Maria. This was followed by her return to the concert stage where she is currently appearing as soloist in recitals and with major symphonies. Anna is also touring the lecture circuit series with Alex Haley, Walter Cronkite, Henry Kissinger and Florence Henderson.
Happy 25th Anniversary to the Puchalski's

Happy Birthday
Nora Brandes