

Big City Cabaret Comes to Bigfork and Whitefish!

Singer & Simpson Productions is excited to be welcoming the fabulous girl trio **Duchess** from New York City to entertain at two of the Valley's best restaurants in April.

Duchess sings and swings in three part harmony with a lot of spunky fun in the spirit of the Boswell and Andrews Sisters. They will be performing at Schafer's Restaurant at the top of Woods Bay in the Mountain Lake Lodge on Saturday, April 23rd, and at Whitefish Lake Golf Club Restaurant in Whitefish on Sunday, April 24th. Both restaurants offer elegant cocktails, delicious dinners, excellent service, fine wines and hand-crafted desserts. Join us for an evening reminiscent of dinner and a show at a famous New York night club such as Café Carlyle or The Oak Room.

"Three fine singers—Melissa Stylianou, Amy Cervini, and Hilary Gardner—join together in swinging harmony to whip up music that traffics in delight. Referencing vocal icons from Peggy Lee to the Boswell Sisters, this fresh-voiced triumvirate plays it straight from the heart."— *The New Yorker*

The trio Duchess is made up of seasoned soloists. On Broadway, Hilary Gardner was the female vocalist, and Frank Sinatra's duet partner, in Twyla Tharp's *Come Fly Away*. Amy Cervini has her own showcase at 55 Bar in New York City. Her husband, arranger and producer Oded Lev-Ari created original arrangements for Duchess tailored to their voices. As for Melissa, Grammy-nominated pianist Fred Hersch said, "Melissa has it all – a gorgeous instrument, superb musicianship and great taste."

"Their warm, earthy harmonies hit you like Cupid's arrow." --ICON Magazine

Duchess brought the house down in New Orleans where they were invited to participate in a celebration of the Boswell Sisters where as Melissa put it, "They appreciated this tongue-in-cheek, slightly down-and-dirty thing we have going on."

Their warmth is so down to earth, and their enjoyment of the music so full of lively fun that you might not notice how serious and accomplished they are. As one fellow musician said, "The audience doesn't realize how difficult what you're doing is. They're having too good a time."

Duchess will be accompanied by Bill Anschell on piano and Michael Barnett on bass. Bassist Michael Barnett toured extensively with the late Pearl Bailey and Louie Bellson, He's worked with the legendary Carmen McRae. For the last twenty-six years he's played bass with the extraordinary pianist Peter Nero. In the 1990's, Bill Anschell was singer Nnenna Freelon's pianist, arranger and musical director. He's performed with a host of jazz greats including Ron Carter, Benny Golson and Russell Malone. Both Michael and Bill are based in Seattle.

"One word best describes Duchess – delightful!" – Joe Lang, *Jersey Jazz*