

Singing Baby to Sleep

THE CD

Jazz vocalist Lori Carsillo changes tempo in her delightful first CD for children, *Lullabies for Little Dreamers*. So soothing it should lull even colicky babies and grumpy editors to sleep, this collection of old favorites is also sophisticated enough to please sleep-deprived parents. Nothing cutesy here – Carsillo has a beautiful voice (backed up by talented musicians on guitar, strings, drums, and piano), and the songs include many much-loved standards like “Hush Little Baby,” “Summertime,” and “Lullaby of Birdland.” Everyone at *Parents' Press* who listened started drifting toward an afternoon nap. This just might be the key to a good night's sleep for kids and for their grown-ups too.



ON STAGE THIS MONTH

Hear Lori Carsillo at the following venues in July. Note: These are performances for adults.

- Friday, July 10, 7-10 p.m., Park Chalet Garden Restaurant (behind the Beach Chalet), 1000 Great Hwy. at Ocean Beach, San Francisco, www.beachchalet.com. With Project: Pimento.
- Saturday, July 11, 9:30 p.m., Trader Vic's, 9 Anchor Dr., Emeryville, (510) 653-3400, www.tradervics.com. With Project: Pimento.
- Saturday, July 18, 9 p.m., Bimbo's 365 Club, 1025 Columbus Ave. (at Chestnut Street), San Francisco, www.bimbos365club.com. With Project: Pimento, opening for Richard Cheese.
- Friday, July 24, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Café Claude, 7 Claude Lane, San Francisco, (415) 392-3505, www.cafeclaud.com. With the Lori Carsillo Trio.

WHO

Lori Carsillo, lounge singer by night, mom to two sons (ages 1 and 3) by day. She even has a third persona as Lola Bombay – more about that in a minute. A Bay Area native, Carsillo grew up in Menlo Park, graduated from Lewis & Clark College in Portland, and lived in San Francisco until a recent move to Antioch.

Carsillo made her jazz singing debut with the Menlo-Atherton High School Jazz Band in 1988 and now appears at Bay Area night-spots several weekends a month. With the Lori Carsillo Trio, she focuses on old favorites and songs that should not be forgotten – she's a huge Cole Porter fan. And as Lola Bombay, she “teases, shimmies, and coos cocktail lounge favorites” with the theremin lounge band Project: Pimento. (What's a theremin? It's the world's first electronic instrument, patented in 1928, whose eerie sound is making a hip comeback.)

Her albums include *Bittersweet*, *Cole Porter: Old Love, New Love, True Love*; and the new *Lullabies for Little Dreamers*. She also appears on *Project: Pimento, Magical Moods of the Theremin*.

Carsillo manages with the help of her husband, Bryce Lynn (“He's an IT engineering smartie”), who cares for their sons when Carsillo is performing. Sometimes they have to hire a babysitter to bridge the gap between Carsillo's departure for a show and Lynn's arrival home from his job in San Francisco.

What's next? Carsillo did her first children's concert this spring, in San Francisco's Dolores Park, and says she would love to do more. She is also starting to write some of her own material, a process she says is “a little intimidating, because there has been so much great music written. But veteran songwriters tell me to just get over it and go ahead.”

You can contact Carsillo via her website, www.loricarsillo.com.



Lori Carsillo in lounge singer mode.

Photo by Liz Payne



Lori Carsillo in mom mode, with one of her sons.

Details: Lullabies for Little Dreamers by Lori Carsillo (Tru Blu Lu Records, San Francisco, 2008, \$14.95 plus shipping). Available through www.loricarsillo.com and www.amazon.com.

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