

JENNIFER HAYES

1. Who or what inspired you to pursue music in general and specifically to teach and perform?

In high school, I was drawn to jazz music after listening to a recording of Ella Fitzgerald. After that, I was hooked and while most of my friends were listening to Madonna and Guns & Roses, I was grooving to the sounds of Manhattan Transfer, Ella, Nina Simone, Billy Holiday etc. I went on to do a Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies at Capilano University and there began my singing career. I am a professional jazz singer but I also love teaching and currently teach students out of my home studio.

2. a) What and where have you performed recently?

b) Do you have any upcoming performance and where?

I recently performed with my quartet at the Kaleidoscope Arts Festival in Coquitlam, which was a lot of fun! I perform throughout the year at various venues in Vancouver including Frankie's Jazz Club. Right now, I'm working on some new Christmas music and have a concert scheduled on December 16th at the Gallery Bistro in Port Moody.

3. What and where do you teach?

I teach contemporary voice, musical theatre and jazz styles out of my home studio in Coquitlam. One of my main focusses when teaching, especially to younger students, is the importance of breathing correctly. I feel that this transfers over into many facets of life outside of singing too...including public speaking, sports, and relieving stress.

4. What are your favourite

a) websites and mobile tools

A new website I have discovered is Communicasound.com. It has lots of interesting tutorials on theory and various instruments. Great for songwriting basics as well.

b) favourite singers and why?

Ella Fitzgerald - love her versatility and impeccable pitch...her crystal clear tone and also her more gritty, soulful tone as well. Plus she swings like crazy! More recently I've been listening to Melody Gardot, who has a very unique and intriguing sound.

c) books related to your craft?

Recently I have been using some new warm up books for students which I really like - **Vocal Warm Ups by Klaus Heizmann** and **Mike Brewer's Warm Ups**. Both are great for solo and choral singers.

5. What is your experience with NATS (volunteering, conferences,

competitions, judging)?

I am new to NATS

6. Please share three things about yourself that are not related to your work as a voice teacher. Hobbies? Adventures?

1. I love drawing and painting...I have painted a huge mural in my music studio along with a few paintings.
2. I'm drawn to the ocean and can beachcomber for hours. I love finding sea glass and have started making jewellery with some rare pieces I have found.
3. Probably my biggest joy outside of music is being with my family...especially my two children...who take me on new adventures every day.