

*"It's a voice that utterly captivated me the first time I heard it. The voice of Daria in action. No matter what she was singing, embracing the balladry of Great American Songbook standards, romping through familiar pop tunes, swinging jazz riffs, dipping into the roots of the blues and beyond. And it was vividly apparent, even in her early albums, that Daria was (and is) a singer with the talent to place her in the upper levels of the jazz vocal art.*

*The proof, as always, is in the tracks. Daria's versions of the songs, arranged by bassist Sam Bevan and Daria, are sheer magic. - It'll be no surprise if Daria's memorable version of 'Strawberry Fields Forever, Songs by the Beatles', really does last 'Forever'."*

**- Don Heckman**  
**The International Review of Music**

An acclaimed jazz vocalist with a beautiful voice, a deep understanding of the lyrics she interprets and a strong interest in many types of World Music, Daria has been creating highly enjoyable and vital music for many years. Her latest project is a unique and inventive exploration of the music of the Beatles called *Strawberry Fields Forever, Songs by the Beatles*.

"I have been a big fan of the Beatles since I was a kid," says Daria. "I feel that their music is the new standard of our time. I've chosen tunes that I really love. We've rearranged them, given them different rhythms (including Jazz, Brazilian, Afro-Beat and Afro-Cuban) and melodic structures while keeping the essence of each song intact. I think that the results are fun to listen to. Plus I've included one original tune, *She's Going Home*, my homage to the Beatles." *Strawberry Fields Forever, Songs by the Beatles* is co-arranged and co-produced by bassist Sam Bevan. While fans of the Beatles will enjoy hearing the timeless melodies in this fresh new light, those who have long loved Daria's dynamic vocals will also be quite pleased.

Daria was born and raised in San Francisco, growing up as part of a uniquely creative family. Her mother spoke five languages, was a professor of creative writing at San Francisco State University, the Fromm Institute and is a published author. Her father was a first violinist with the San Francisco Symphony, a solo artist and slight of hand magician. "When I was six, my father started taking me to symphony rehearsals. I remember seeing all of the musicians up there on the big stage and I knew very quickly that I wanted to spend my life around music." As a child, she had the opportunity to meet such celebrities as Danny Kaye, Phyllis Diller and Benny Goodman. Daria studied classical piano for ten years, but her voice was not to be denied. She gained early experience singing in choruses, choirs and glee clubs. A turning point in her life occurred when she was 13. She turned on the radio one day and found a station that played jazz from the 1920s and '30s. "I got hooked on that station and could not stop listening. I became more and more interested in all the different jazz styles and harmonies, and was blown away by everything that I listened to." Her father encouraged her to pursue her studies in classical voice and piano, however, Daria knew that her music career would be going in a different and more innovative direction.

After a period at San Francisco State, studying acting and music, Daria began performing regularly in jazz clubs. Over time she developed her own distinctive and very original style. Daria studied improv with Bobby McFerrin, was mentored by Mark Murphy, Maye Cavallaro and studied Brazilian music with Celia Malheiros. These masterful singers helped her open up her style as an improviser and use the three octave range of her sensuous and soulful voice as an instrument. They also encouraged her to utilize the rhythms of World Music that she loved.

In 1998 Daria made her first recording as a band leader, the EP *Just The Beginning*. Although originally conceived as a demo, it received excellent reviews, gained international airplay and established her as a new and important artist. While *Just The Beginning* offered a contemporary take on standards and featured one of her original songs, *Japanese Love Affair*, her next CD, *Feel The Rhythm*, produced and arranged by Pianist, Frank Martin and seven-time Grammy nominee, Wayne Wallace, was a giant step forward. It not only featured Daria's talents as a singer but as a songwriter who contributed three of her original songs. The title track, *Feel The Rhythm*, received Honorable Mention from the Billboard World Music Competition. Performing songs that were as much World Music as they were jazz, Daria's singing sounds effortless over odd time meters and exotic African, Rhumba and Brazilian rhythms. Her intonation is perfect, and her range is outstanding. With each note she celebrates the richness of Latin and world cultures in fresh and creative ways.

*"Five Big Shining Stars!" - The Jazz Review; "Daria is the real deal." - All About Jazz*

Daria has received international airplay and performed at clubs and festivals in the SF Bay Area and beyond, including L.A., NYC, Japan, Brussels, Montreux and Berlin. She has shared the stage with Bob Dorough, Ricki Lee Jones, Diana Krall, Bonnie Raitt, Elvis Costello, Dan Hicks, Tuck and Patti, Dave Grisman, Maria Muldaur, Joe Sample, Harold Jones, Lawrence Hobgood, Christian McBride, Abe Laboriel, Harvie S, Jose Neto, Lewis Nash, Marcos Silva, Harvey Wainapel, Wayne Wallace, Frank Martin and Alex Acuna among many others. Daria's performances are engaging, entertaining and original, cementing her reputation as a compelling singer who erases the boundaries between jazz and World Music.

For over 10 years, Daria toured the world as a vocalist, percussionist and melodica player for the legendary *Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks*. She has also recorded voice-overs for radio commercials, contributes her talents in performances for the internationally renowned Bread and Roses charitable organization (which recently presented her with a twenty-five year award of appreciation).

Daria's singing has evolved and matured through the years, growing in strength and sensitivity. "I sang 30's/40's swing, was in a number of jazz fusion bands in my earlier days, in addition to singing Pop, R&B and Brazilian music. For me, it's all coming full circle and I'm combining elements of all the styles I love. I used to be very technical in my singing but now the emotion and the lyrics have become more important to me."

Currently breaking new ground with *Strawberry Fields Forever, Songs by the Beatles*, Daria is joined by some of the most creative Bay Area musicians. Listeners will hear these famous songs with new insight. One can really appreciate what Mark Murphy said about the colorful performer: "*Daria has all the elements of the great jazz singers - complete musicality, bravery, intense commitment to you, her listener, to give you her very best. And the voice? Just lovely, that's all!*"

**- Scott Yanow**  
**Jazz Critic/Author**

Daria is also an educator who has taught at many music schools in and around the SF Bay Area including The California Jazz Conservatory, Piedmont Piano, College of Marin and Blue Bear School of American Music. For more information go to her teaching page.

### **RECORDING CREDITS:**

**New CD!!** DARIA, *Strawberry Fields Forever, Songs by the Beatles*  
on Origin/OA2 Records 2016

"Wedding Song" by Michael Handler, sung as a duet with Daria, was nominated for **Best New Country Song at the 2014 New Mexico Music Awards!** *Country Blues Revue*, Live "Frogville Sessions" 2013, Marc and Mike Music

*Live at Davies Hall* Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks, 2012, SurfDog Records

*Crazy For Christmas* Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks, 2010, SurfDog Records

The Christmas Jug Band! *On The Holiday Highway* 2009, Globe Records

*Tangled Tales* Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks, 2009, SurfDog Records  
Produced by Chris Goldsmith (Blind Boys of Alabama)

*The Sky Could Send You* Sherri Roberts, 2006,  
Blue House Records, Produced by Harvie S.

DARIA, *Feel the Rhythm* 2005, Jazz 'm Up Records,  
Produced by Wayne Wallace and Frank Martin

*Center of the Rhyme* 2003 Lisa B, Piece of Pie Records

*White Christmas, And a Songbird in a Pear Tree, Six Songs of Christmas* 2001, Flying Weasel Enterprises

*Jazz Improv, Volume 1, Number 2* 1999, Compilation CD

*Voices for a Millennium* The Stroud Project, DSVS Records

Compilation *If You Believe* The Stroud Project, 1999,  
DSVS Records

DARIA, *Just the Beginning* 1998, Jazz 'm Up Records,  
Produced by Ian Dogole

### **COMMERCIALS/VOICEOVERS:**

Alvarado Street Bread, KDFC, KGO, KNBR  
Perfect Strings, KDFC  
Commercial Spots on KCSM, Mojito Jazz, D.C. Coast to Coast

### **RADIO HIGHLIGHTS**

[SkyJazz.com](http://SkyJazz.com)  
Jazz With Bob Parlocha  
In the Moment with Jim Bennett  
Sunday Night Suites with Bud Spangler  
I'm Talking Jazz with Melanie Berzon (KCSM)  
Ear Thyme, with Doug Edwards  
JazzLine, with Afrikahn Jahmal Davyes, BAJABA (KPFA)  
Jane Heaven, (KPFA)  
WomensRadio

### **COMMERCIALS/VOICEOVERS:**

Alvarado Street Bread  
KGO  
KNBR  
Perfect Strings, KDFC  
KCSM  
Mojito Jazz

**Daria is honored to be included in the following books:**

**The Jazz Singers, The Top 521 Jazz Singers of All Time**  
by Jazz Critic/Author, Scott Yanow.

**San Francisco Bay Area Jazz & Bluesicians - Volume 2**

by photographer, Jessica Levant.

Volumes 1 and 2 were recommended in the San Francisco Chronicle 2014 Holiday Gift Guide!