

Annie Kozuch



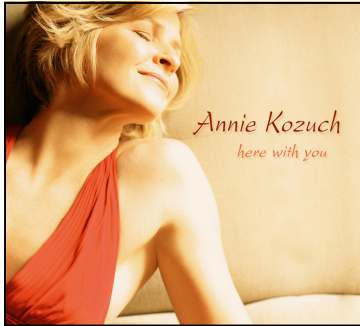
Annie Kozuch [pronounced Ko' zuk] was raised in Mexico City, Mexico. After seeing her first professional show at the age of six, she knew she wanted to perform. She sat in on her siblings' guitar lessons and although she was too young to hold the guitar, she learned to sing all the boleros and mariachis. Encouraged by her parents to "do what makes you happy" she furthered her passion for acting and singing by training at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts (R.A.D.A.), London, and graduated from Mills College, CA, with a B.A. in Dramatic Arts. After a few years in San Francisco, she moved to New York City.

Ms. Kozuch enjoys a successful broad-based career. Whether in plays, in film or on TV, Ms. Kozuch brings emotional depth and sharp delivery to every role she takes. Reviewers have called her soprano voice "pure" and "effortless" and have pointed out that "she acts every tune as well as she sings them." She has been called a "smart, smart blond" for her ability to find the wit and insight in lyrics.

Her singing repertoire has landed her acclaimed Broadway Pops performances, including Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Tokyo City Symphony Orchestra, New Haven Symphony Orchestra, and Natchez Opera Festival - An Evening of Jazz. In her new release, *Here With You*, she teamed up with jazz pianist Frank Ponzio and producer Jose Gallegos who bridged her love of the American Songbook with their Jazz and Latin backgrounds. "I found myself going back to all these wonderful jazz standards, boleros and bossa nova. The music and lyrics are authentic and timeless."

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Annie Kozuch (vocals), Frank Ponzio (piano),
Saadi Zain (bass), Vito Lesczak (drums),
Samuel Torres (percussion), Richard Padrón (guitar),
Cecilia Tenconi (saxophone/flute), and
Jose Gallegos (electric piano)



CD DESCRIPTION:

Here With You marks the introduction of trilingual vocalist, Annie Kozuch to the Jazz and Latin devotee. Her voice is cool, clean and a joy to hear. Supported on this debut album by musicians who know how to play jazz, boleros and bossa nova, they remind you that you are listening to great music, while at the same time, not getting in the way of Kozuch's cool, sensual and romantic voice.

Annie Kozuch brings true credibility to **“Chega de Saudade”** (“No More Blues”), which is considered the first bossa nova song composed by Antonio Carlos Jobim (music) and Vinícius de Moraes (lyric). Her articulation of the language is flawless and filled with passion. The beautiful timbre of her voice floats across the rhythms of the bossa nova, bringing true homage to the composers.

Swinging down the lane we make a stop at **“I Love Being Here With You”**, reminiscent of Peggy Lee’s rendition, you can hear Annie smile during her reading of the lyric. A sassy scat section gives way to Kozuch belting the track to its conclusion and taking the listener along for a welcomed ride.

A sensitive version of **“How Deep is The Ocean”** is a nice texture change along the journey, showing a breathy side of Kozuch’s voice. Her warmth and believability shine through on this track. The sparse instrumentation highlights Annie’s feminine vocal qualities.

“Corcovado/Quiet Nights” features a bilingual version of this classic Jobim bossa nova. Annie draws out the bittersweet lyrics with each note dripping from her sensual lips, giving the listener an opportunity to enjoy the beauty of the lyrics and her voice in both a Portuguese and English version.

“You’ve Changed”, a popular song originally written by Bill Carey and Carl Fischer in 1941, is given a perceptive peppering of the saxophone, as Kozuch hits transitions from falsetto to low register notes, creating a lilting feeling for the listener to enjoy.

Mnemonic to the early Judy Garland years, Kozuch exhibits a purity in her voice on the track, **“I’m Through With Love”**, showing all the right attributes to compliment the writer’s original intentions.

With an authentic Spanish cut, Annie serves us an emotive and classic bolero version of **“Nosotros”** (we), written by famous Cuban composer, Pedro Junco.

Switching gears, **“Carinhoso”** (loving), done as a ‘swing’, is a fresh and inventive approach to this widely recorded song made famous by Joao Gilberto. Kozuch sheds new light to this ordinarily performed bossa nova with a mid-tempo swing interpretation that is light, fun and completely swinging!

“You’re Getting to Be a Habit With Me”, with a Freddy Green chunking guitar style, gives the cut a retro-jazz continuity, harkening back to the days of ole, a foot tapping cut that is just plain fun.

In Alec Wilder’s, **“Who Can I Turn To”**, Kozuch does each phrase its own justice, with beauty and grace; she glides across the palette of the song, delivering a tender and thoughtful performance.

In the absolutely gorgeous Spanish rendition of Mexican composer Armando Manzanero’s, **“Somos Novios”** (“It’s Impossible”), Annie taps into her roots once again, offering the listener an authentic experience, weaving a canvas of textural colors and aural delights, a fitting ending for a beautifully traversed canvas of styles and languages.

Simply put, *Here With You* is a beautifully seasoned, well-crafted release that will bring delight to your ears and make your collection sing with joy.

SUGGESTED TRACKS:

Jazz tracks; 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10
Spanish tracks; 7, 11
Portuguese tracks; 1, 4, 8

ADD DATE: August 30, 2010

STREET DATE: October 21, 2010

TRACKING AND PRESS:

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