

Thank you for the wonderful work you and all your colleagues did in the salute to Rosemary. You have a talent that continues to mature and grow. We have great memories of the remarkable night."

Much love, Nick Clooney



"What a great evening and a sold out show! Great music. Great band. Great pictures, they were mesmerizing. Thanks for a fun night."

John Kieswetter, Cincinnati Enquirer



Salute to Rosemary Clooney

Beloved music and television luminary Nancy James performs the cherished repertoire of national treasure Rosemary Clooney.

Cincinnati music icon Carmon DeLeone sits in on the tunes and guides a musical and visual retrospective on the life and art of a Kentucky legend.

program info.....	2
personnel bios.....	3
press	5
praise & reviews..	9
booking info.....	10

Salute to Rosemary Clooney

Celebrated vocalist Nancy James, along with Maestro and Drummer Carmon DeLeone, will take your audience on a musical *Sentimental Journey* in this Two Act Stage Show that runs 90 minutes in its entirety.

Beginning in Maysville, in her *Old Kentucky Home* with her sister Betty and brother Nick, they *Tenderly* guide the audience through the life and career of Rosemary Clooney: The years as a Singer in the Big Band Era, her big hit *Come On-A My House* with Columbia Records that made her a household name, the songs that landed her on the top of the Billboard charts, and the ones she sang on the big screen, and on the radio. They highlight the professional relationships she enjoyed: Mitch Miller, Harry James, Bing Crosby; and the personal ones as well: Jose Ferrer, Nelson Riddle, and Dante DiPaolo. They celebrate her love of being a “Girl Singer” and the love she had for her family.

This musical “Love Letter” is scripted with dialogue that Ms. James and Mr. DeLeone share to move along the story-line of Ms. Clooney’s illustrious career. The pictures that act as the backdrop during every song of this production add to the nostalgia of the entire piece. They have been carefully chosen to add to the story each song tells. Some of these pictures have never before been seen by the general public.

This production has played to sold out venues in Kentucky and Ohio and leaves the audience singing along in a standing ovation at the conclusion of every presentation.

Song selections will be taken from the following list: *My Old Kentucky Home*, *Tenderly*, *Sentimental Journey*, *Come On-A My House*, *Hey There*, *This Ole House*, *In the Cool Cool Cool of the Evening*, *You’ll Never Know*, *Just in Time*, *Count Your Blessings*, *Slow Boat to China*, *Sisters*, *Blues in the Night*, *From This Moment On*, *More Than You Know*, *Sweet Kentucky Ham*, *Blue Skies*, *What’ll I Do*, *The Promise*, *They Can’t Take That Away From Me*, and *God Bless America*.

Visit <http://www.rosemaryclooney.com/salute/> to watch a brief video clip from a previous performance.



The Musicians

Emmy Award Winning Vocalist, **Nancy James** has been a familiar name, a familiar face and familiar voice throughout the Tri-State area for over three decades. *The Bob Braun Show* launched a career on Television and Radio that has sustained her entire career. She spent nine years as a member of the *Fun Bunch* on WLW-T: singing, interviewing and creating live commercials, enjoyed her position at WSAI hosting a mid-day radio show that featured Adult Contemporary music (and playing some of her favorite Rosemary Clooney hits!), and most recently hosted *Northern Kentucky Magazine* on ICN6 for 5 great years.

She remains busy on-camera with TV commercials, corporate industrials, independent films, and video magazines and is heard regularly on radio/tv with her versatile voice-over talents. She enjoys performing a variety of musical styles: from singing weddings, presenting her cabaret act for private and corporate parties, to providing the vocals for Orchestras and Big Bands in the area. But her favorite role is wife and mom. Nancy resides in a Western Hills suburb in Cincinnati with her husband Bill and loves spending time with their two grown children.

Find out more by visiting her website: www.nancyjames.net



Carmon DeLeone, Music Director of the Cincinnati Ballet, The Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra and The Middletown Symphony, possesses an impressive list of accomplishments. At New York's Carnegie Hall, he has served as Conductor and Host of the "Family Concert" series. He has conducted frequent performances in Europe with the Luxembourg Philharmonic Orchestra, and has been named the Illinois "Music Director of the Year." As a composer, he most recently premiered his *Fanfare, Funk and Fandango* (An American Dance Set). He has composed many original scores for the ballet, including *Princess and The Pea*, *Frevo*, *Guernica with Timbrel* and *Dance Praise His Name*, and Ruth Page's *Billy Sunday*. His best known work, the full-length ballet in two acts, *Peter Pan*, is enjoying continued praise in major cities from coast to coast, as well as overseas. He conducted the debut of that production in London during a 28-performance run with the Atlanta Ballet at the prestigious Royal Festival Hall. During his 12 year tenure as Assistant, and later Resident Conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Maestro DeLeone served on its staff with Music Directors Max Rudolf, Thomas Schippers, Walter Susskind, and Erich Kunzel. He was also selected personally by Erich Leinsdorf to participate in an intensive master conducting seminar at Lincoln Center.

As a drummer, he leads an ensemble of Cincinnati's finest big band musicians, newly named "Carmon DeLeone and the Concert Jazz Orchestra."

Featured Performers



Steve Schmidt



Bill Gemmer



Brad Meyers



Mike Sharfe

Cincinnati Jazz Favorites Steve Schmidt (piano), Mike Sharfe (bass), Bill Gemmer (brass), and Brad Meyers (guitar) join Carmon DeLeone onstage to bring this music to life. Whether they are performing at the Famous Blue Wisp Night Club, in a recording studio, or as a member of any number of esteemed groups in the Tri-State area, these sought-after musicians are at the head of their class when it comes to musicianship.



Janet Yates Vogt joins Nancy onstage for vocals on the ever popular duet *Sisters*. Janet Yates Vogt is a composer, lyricist, playwright, vocalist, and pianist. Along with writing partner, Mark Friedman – she's created the musical *Tenderly*, *The Rosemary Clooney Musical* which will premiere next February at the Victoria in Dayton.

Press

Nancy James Salutes Rosemary Clooney

by John Kiesewetter

Cincinnati.com TV & Media Blog

June 8, 2011

Former “Bob Braun Show” singer Nancy James salutes one of her idols, the late Rosemary Clooney, in a June 16 concert at the Carnegie Visual and Performing Arts Center. She’ll sing her favorite Rosemary Clooney songs, including some of her Concord Jazz label songs from the 1990s. Clooney died in 2002.

Carmon DeLeone will MC the program, introducing each song with comments about each stage in Rosemary’s career. James will be accompanied by Steve Schmidt on piano, Mike Sharfe on bass (who played for Rosemary in town), Bill Gemmer on trombone and guitarist Brad Meyers (who will play a salute to the late jazz guitarist Cal Collins).



Rosemary, who was born and raised in Maysville, made her WLW-AM debut with sister Betty in 1945. Nancy James made her WLWT-TV (Channel 5) debut in 1974, and sang on the “Braun” show until 1983. She also hosted “Northern Kentucky Magazine” on Insight cable, and several radio shows, and has done many voice-overs and commercials. Yes, that’s her seated in a booth in the Skyline TV commercial.



The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 16, at the Carnegie, 1028 Scott Boulevard, Covington. Tickets (\$19) are available at the Carnegie site, or by calling 859-957-1940. James did a big band concert last year at the Carnegie.

Press cont.

Nancy James Pays Tribute to Rosemary Clooney At The Carnegie 6/16

<http://cincinnati.broadwayworld.com>



One of Hollywood's and Cincinnati's most beloved entertainers will be celebrated in song and visuals when "Nancy James Sings Rosemary Clooney" on June 16 at The Carnegie Visual and Performing Arts Center in Covington, Kentucky.

The Carnegie is across the Ohio River from Cincinnati, where the late Ms. Clooney got her start, singing on WLW Radio in the 1940s with her sister, Betty. Coincidentally, Nancy James also began her career at WLW, performing on the Bob Braun Show, a popular TV and radio show syndicated in the Midwest in the 1970s.

"I got to know Rosie when she came back several times as a guest on the Bob Braun Show," James said. "She was the quintessential girl next door. She had no

airs, and was very kind and giving. She was as normal as anyone you would ever meet, even though she was one of the greatest singers in the world."

Clooney, who died in 2002, was a native of Maysville, Kentucky, about 50 miles from Cincinnati, and had moved from Beverly Hills to the nearby town of Augusta in her later years. Her house, which overlooks the Ohio River in Augusta, is now a museum featuring her music and movie memorabilia, including exhibits dedicated to George Clooney, her nephew.

The upcoming concert is being produced with cooperation from the Rosemary Clooney fan site www.rosemaryclooney.com, which is providing historic photos to be shown onstage during the show. The show will include an hour and a half of Clooney's greatest songs, as well as some that were not necessarily her favorites, such as the classic "Come On-A My House."

"Rosie thought it was just a silly novelty song," James said. "She also didn't like the idea of singing it in a mock Italian accent, but Columbia Records pressured her to do it, and it became a huge hit. She didn't like it, but her fans sure did."

Nancy James was trained at the prestigious College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) in Cincinnati, and has been a popular jazz vocalist in the area for three decades, having performed on television, radio and on stage. She is also the former co-host of the television program "Northern Kentucky Magazine."

Joining her onstage will be Carmon DeLeone, music director of the Cincinnati Ballet, the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra and the Middletown (Ohio) Symphony Orchestra. DeLeone, who is recognized for his knowledge of music history, will introduce each song by telling a brief story about it. Also accompanying James will be other, popular Cincinnati musicians: pianist Steve Schmidt; trombonist Bill Gemmer; guitarist BrAd Meyers; and bass player Mike Sharfe, who toured with Clooney. Harmonizing with James will be composer Janet Yates-Vogt, co-writer of a new musical about Rosemary Clooney titled "Tenderly," which is scheduled to open at Dayton, Ohio's Victoria Theatre this fall.

"One of my favorite quotes about Rosie was that she was one of the best friends a song ever had," James said. "She understood lyrics and gave a voice to songs in a way that most other singers could not. She was a major influence on me, and I am honored to be paying tribute to her."

"Nancy James Sings Rosemary Clooney" will take place June 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the Carnegie Visual and Performing Arts Center, 1028 Scott Boulevard, Covington, Kentucky 41011. Individual tickets are \$19; \$16 for Carnegie members and Enjoy the Arts members. Tickets can be ordered at www.thecarnegie.com or by calling (859) 957-1940.

Press cont.

Concert plays tribute to Rosemary Clooney

August 4, 2011, by Eric Robinette,
Middletown Journal Staff Writer

MIDDLETOWN — Most people write love letters with a pen and paper, or with a computer. Next weekend, some performers will write a love letter with musical instruments and microphones

The Middletown Symphony Women's Association presents a tribute to Rosemary Clooney, which will take place at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 13 at the Miami University Middletown Community Center.



The musicians include the symphony's musical director, Carmon DeLeone on drums, and Cincinnati singer Nancy James, who is well known for her years on "The Bob Braun Show." Both of them met Clooney, and both consider her a personal favorite.

"When I was asked to do this, I didn't hesitate. I said yes immediately. Rosemary Clooney is my favorite female singer. She was without parallel. She had that ability to sing so simply and so beautifully," DeLeone said.

James, who put the program together, said it goes through all phases of Clooney's career, from "Come on-a My House" to "Sisters" and beyond.

The concert will be accompanied by a slide show documenting Clooney's life. Clooney, the brother of newscaster Nick Clooney and aunt of actor George Clooney, died in 2002.

"This program is like our love letter to Rosie. She made many appearances on the (Bob Braun) program, and she was wonderful. Feeling a part of her performing family was something that gave me a wonderful perspective of her as a person," James said.

Performing with DeLeone and James will be Steve Schmidt on piano, Michael Sharfe on bass and Bill Gimmer on trombone. Tickets for the show cost \$20, reservations are appreciated by Tuesday. Call (513) 423-6779 for tickets.

Press cont.

A Tribute to Rosemary Clooney

By Rose Morgan

Miami University Middletown hosted the guests and entertainers for the Middletown Symphony Women's Association summer fundraiser on Saturday August 13, 2011. It was the largest crowd of the seven years of this event.

Normally the food and drinks are located in the large community room but due to the almost 200 people who attended, the buffet was in the hall adjacent to the entrance. The food was excellent but it was just an accompaniment to the wonderful entertainment provided by Maestro Carmon DeLeone and his peers. Mike Sharfe, bass player, felt privileged to be recreating the music since he had accompanied Ms. Clooney when she performed.



The other professionals, pianist Steve Schmidt and trombonist Bill Gemmer are also exceptional and very enjoyable. As always it is great fun to see Carmon DeLeone really enjoy himself on the drums.

Nancy James, the vocalist, did an outstanding job bringing to life the music of Rosemary Clooney. She was joined on several numbers by Janet Yates who acted as Rosemary's vocalist sister.

The Clooney family hails from Maysville which makes Rosemary a 'local' as is her famous nephew, George Clooney.

The audience had the added treat of a continuous video presentation on three of the walls portraying the life of Ms. Clooney. The pictures of her would often portray her with many famous coworkers, Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra, etc., etc., etc. Her personal life photos showed her children, husband and sisters as well as other relatives.

http://www.middletownusa.com/forum/forum_posts.asp?TID=4058

Praise & Reviews

“So delighted to have been able to attend this program with Nick, Nina and my husband Chris. What an enjoyable evening. Nancy has put together a respectful and moving salute to our sister. It brought tears to my eyes.”

Gail Stone Darley

“You were all brilliant tonight! Thank you for your talent and your cooperation. The audience loved it, and that’s what we were there for. I think we did Rosie proud. I always say that when (or rather, if) I get to heaven, the first thing I’m gonna’ do is get a front-row table at the heavenly night club and listen to Rosemary Clooney ‘til the end of time.”

Carmon DeLeone

“Bravo on the terrific performance last night. It was one classy singer’s tribute to another. No one could have done it better.”

Jim Delaney President and CEO of Sentimental Productions

We really enjoyed your concert last night - it was fantastic. Rosemary would have been very pleased with how you brought her story and her music to life. It was obvious how much work went into the planning and execution of that concert and how satisfying it must have been for you. Thanks for a great evening and congratulations!”

Bill Harvey President and CEO of Buddy Rogers Music

“Very nice programming of tunes. I especially enjoyed the “What’ll I Do” treatment; that was the very best I have ever heard that marvelous tune rendered....ever. Brilliant!”

Bob Hinklin, Leader of Monday Night Big Band

“Last evening’s Rosemary Clooney tribute was beautiful and superbly well-received. To have performers of this caliber share the stage at my venue was an honor, made even more significant by the wonderful content of the program. And, most importantly, every patron in our sold-out house was beside herself with joy and effusive in praise for the performances. Nancy has done a magnificent job in her assembly and promotion of the program, and Carmon for his predictably adept musical direction of these great Rosie tunes. They did themselves (and me!) very proud last night.”

Joshua Steele, Managing Director
The Carnegie Visual and Performing Arts Center

Booking Information

If you would like to learn more about how the Rosemary Clooney Salute might fit with your venue, or if you would like to book the show, please contact Nancy James via the following:

**Via Phone: 513-922-8573 or
Via Email: njames@nancyjames.net**



Photo © Britt S. Krebs

Your sponsoring organization/venue would be expected to provide a tuned piano; a sound system, and spotlights, and the staff to man them; a screen and projection device to facilitate the slide show; dressing rooms for the talent to change; allow access to the venue several hours prior to performance to enable musicians the ability to set up and tune the musical instruments and conduct a sound check; and have a meeting room available to accommodate the performers.

As the contracting agent, Ms. James will provide: the performers to include co-star, Carmon DeLeone (also drummer in the Carmon DeLeone Trio), a pianist; and bassist, and possibly a guest trombonist, guitarist and additional vocalist; a tech to run the slide show; and will assist with

marketing the performance by making herself available for interviews and press coverage.