



## SHORT BIO

An elegant performer and exceptional vocalist, Cheryl Jewell is a rare gem in the Pacific Northwest scene. Described as an “extraordinarily versatile singer”, Jewell moves with seamless grace from swinging big band and jazz standards to soulful ballads. Her style reflects the passion of Dinah Washington, the finesse of Nancy Wilson and the blue-eyed soul of Eva Cassidy, as she captivates audiences with her pure, rich tone and stirring interpretations.

Over the span of her career Jewell has worked in an array of genres, earning recognition and respect along the way. From her early days steeped in the blues of the Chicago and Detroit areas, to the years she spent performing nationally, appearing with musicians such as Tim Bogert (Vanilla Fudge/Jeff Beck), John Entwistle, Eddie Van Halen, Randy Newman and Holland-Dozier-Holland, she has impressed audiences with her powerful and versatile voice. Based in Los Angeles during the 1980s and 90s, Jewell was a member of the critically acclaimed alt-neo country-rock band Tin Star, sang lead vocals with the 1986 NAMM Show All-Star Band (featuring Eddie Van Halen) and provided backing vocals for the Nelson hit “After the Rain” (Geffen Records, 1990). In 1989 she co-founded the Dove Award nominated all-female Christian rock band, Rachel Rachel. The group entered the Billboard Charts (Top Contemporary Christian) at #25 with their first album *Way to My Heart*, and had several top 10 hits, including two #1’s. She was also a featured artist, along with Al Green, on the Famine Relief record *Operation Angel Wings* (released by Word Records, Nashville, 1993). With her various bands, Jewell has opened for the likes of Leon Russell, Edgar Winter, Jerry Lee Lewis and Don McLean; she also appeared in a number of televised performances (including a stint on Fox’s *Married with Children*), recorded national commercial jingles for AT&T, MTV and Hecht’s Department Stores and was featured on Tin Star’s film-version recording of “Brighter than the Moon” (included in the 1987 movie *No Man’s Land*, starring Charlie Sheen).

Drawing inspiration from a long list of past and present artists and collaborators, Jewell has cultivated a dynamic style that is at home in jazz, blues, R&B, gospel, soul, rock and country. When she moved back to the Pacific Northwest in 2002, however, it was to her early roots in jazz that she returned; and with her fresh, hip and passionate style, she is once again making a name for herself with her own trio, the Jewell Jazz Ensemble, and in other Puget Sound acts, including Mark Kelly’s Saltwater Octet and Paul Sorensen’s 17-piece Northern Lights Jazz Orchestra. She also placed First Runner-up (to Greta Matassa) in the 2009 Seattle-Kobe Sister City Jazz competition, adding to a growing reputation in the jazz world.

Jewell’s 2012 freshman jazz standards release, *My Blue Heaven*, is an elegant, evocative and stirring approach to some of the most loved standards of the twentieth century. Backed by an array of top-notch musicians, she shines in her powerful delivery of such classics as “When Do the Bells Ring for Me?”, “Cry Me a River”, “Lover, Come Back to Me”, and “What Are You Doing the Rest of Your Life?”, all framed by “My Blue Heaven”, her retro-tinged interpretation of Lena Horne’s classic American fantasy. Rounding out the album are “Wayfaring Stranger” and “People Get Ready”, reminding the listener of the thread that flows between folk, spirituals, the blues, jazz and popular music. From intimate guitar duos to fabulous big band sounds and soulful organ trios, selections from this CD will also be featured on Music Choice TV’s “Singers and Swing” channel in early 2012 ([www.MusicChoice.com/MusicChannels](http://www.MusicChoice.com/MusicChannels)). As Brokaw Company publicist, Diane Hadley, who has followed Jewell’s career for a number of years, said: ***“From being the best, she’s only gotten better. She’s found her niche in jazz, where she can express the depth of her emotions. A seasoned performer, Cheryl is one of those rare vocalists that gives one chills of something extraordinary when she sings.”***

*“Cheryl’s got ‘it’, as they say. She’s a marvelous talent.  
You just have to hear a few notes to know she’s going to be fantastic.”*  
--Paul Sorensen, Northern Lights Jazz Orchestra

*“Cheryl is a versatile performer and an extraordinary singer. To top it off, she has a fun,  
engaging style that our audiences love. Surrounded by a top-notch band, this is one of the  
best jazz shows around.”*  
--Rick Star, Proprietor, the Rockfish Grill

*“What a great show! The texture and tapestry of your voice is truly awe inspiring. When I  
try to describe your voice, I say it is an instrument.”*  
--A fan, the Blue Horse Gallery show

*“Jewell, aptly named, shines on stage and adds pizzazz...a powerful voice and playful  
charm.”*  
--Music Connection magazine  
V.F. Nadsady, Review of Jewell w/Tin Star

*“...big voiced.”*  
--the LA Times  
Steven Hochman, Review of Jewell w/Tin Star

*“...the voice of an angel.”*  
--Lou Rawls