

Anita Wardell

Quote Sheet

"Anita Wardell is a singer who takes no prisoners. The Australian vocalist is an uncompromising exponent of bebop and has won a cult following among her colleagues in London during her time here. Think of her, if you like, as the female equivalent of Mark Murphy."

Clive Davis, The Times, London, August 2001.

"Word is spreading about Anita Wardell. Guilford-born Adelaide-raised, she gives ballads an unsentimental glow and scat-sings with rare musical intelligence."

"World-class vocalist with the ability to delve deep into the meanings of the lyrics of the great jazz songbooks, and then to improvise over them with fluency, fluidity and a horn-like intonation, accompanied by the piano artistry of Robin Aspland."

"British singer Anita Wardell, who grew up in Adelaide, revealed herself not only as a persuasive interpreter of lyrics but as a gifted scat singer with a horn player's improvisational flair."

"Wardell achieves surprising vocal effects with a very unusual voice without sacrificing the meaning of a song. Female jazz singers are in plentiful supply at the moment, but Anita Wardell is indisputably the real thing."

Wangaratta Jazz Festival Australia 2005

"Australian newcomer Anita Wardell made a good impression...Her pitch and timing are reliable and she scat sings in an unselfconscious, musicianly way..."

Review of Ronnie Scott's appearance, Jack Massarik, Evening Standard, April 15, 1999.

Anita Wardell

"Wardell has her own sort of impish, even puckish, scat that trills away over her whole range like a carefully conceived instrumental solo, and I found it enchanting...She stunned the audience into spellbound silence..."

Concert review Pizza on the Park, London, Simon Becker, Boz Magazine.

"Who but Anita Wardell would deserve an instrumental opening to warm up the atmosphere? A very special way to welcome the Australian singer to Lescar... With a voice full of warmth she wove her way through bebops, ballads, and bossanova, not missing an opportunity to share her radiant pleasure with the audience..."

Review of concert at the Lescar Hotel, Herve Perez, Sheffield Times.

"...Anita made her debut at the Fairway where jazz fans described her as 'the genuine article'..."

Welwyn and Hatfield Times, August 1998.

"Anita Wardell...is currently one of the most exciting and original exponents of the art of vocal improvisation."

Martin Lilleker, Sheffield Telegraph, January 24, 1997

"For many, the most creative jazz singer operating in London, this sweet toned Australian chooses superior songs and can improvise with the best."

Jack Massarik, Hot Tickets Magazine, Evening Standard, January 1999.

Anita Wardell

"A sensitive singer who likes to scat as well as invest in the lyric and melody. Her approach is clear in the title of her album, 'Straight Ahead'. She's recently been a big it in a season at Ronnie Scott's London."

Edinburgh Festival Magazine, 1999.

"Pure bebop singing, displaying a musical mastery..."

Peter Hepple, Stage and Television Today newspaper.
