

# 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.*

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"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*

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"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.*

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"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.*

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"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.*

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

*Welwyn and Hatfield Times, August 1998.*

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"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*

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"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.*

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"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.*

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

*Peter Hepple, Stage and Television Today newspaper.*

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