

JODY JOSEPH

Biography



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Jody Joseph harbors an instinct bred from the historical musical significance of her own New Jersey backyard, and has the passion and intensity to back it up. From the very first day on the planet, she was granted a musical heritage (one of her famous relatives was opera singer Mario Lanza, another one a cousin named Jon Bon Jovi), and during her early years she began forming a style drawn from various eras of rock, pop and soul. Heritage NYC FM WNEW beamed the greatest rock and roll songs of the day into the bedroom town of Metuchen New Jersey, and while the other kids were dreaming of pitching at Yankee Stadium or becoming world-renowned astrophysicists, Jody Joseph fantasized about being on stage playing her own songs. "I always knew this was what I wanted to do with my life," says Joseph. "You can't fight those kinds of feelings; no matter what happens in your life, that dream will always come back around and get back in your face."

Inspired by the reflections of her life, Jody says "I have always believed that music is a universal language that has the ability to comfort and heal through some pretty dark moments in our lives."

The 2000 release of her debut effort marked the moment in time when Jody began to realize her most fervent dreams into reality. "I always knew that I wanted to be a writer of my own songs, and knew that in some respects that I would fight for their existences as if they were my own children. Because, in a very real way, that's what songs are for me. They're part of me." *The Only Way Out Is Through* features standout session players under the advice and guidance of Scott Welch (Alanis Morissette), who saw the talent and took on the managerial role to help Jody develop her craft. All of the songs were either co-written or fully written by Joseph, and produced by Dan Grigsby.

By night, Joseph and her current band, cleverly called The Average Joes ("Hey, it takes the pressure off of us before we even walk in the door" she says with a wry grin) keep a steady schedule of Jersey club dates, national act openers and showcase shows. Recently their effort was acknowledged with 2004 Asbury Music Award nominations for Best Female Vocalist, and Best Pop Band. Among other accolades is as a runner-up in the annual Stone Pony House Band Search. She was recently dubbed "The First Lady of Rock" by the renowned music venue. Jody is currently working on new material for a third album, and is very excited about the twists and turns that this road has taken. Her songs are bluesy ballads and cranked-up soulful rockers, with devilishly clever lyrics and wide-open heart and soul.

By day, Jody likes to hang out at home in Tinton Falls New Jersey, close to her daughter, husband, dog and cat while she teaches vocal lessons from her home studio. Jody Joseph Vocal Techniques was founded 14 years ago by the namesake herself, and has blossomed into a full-time school that caters to the needs of the up and coming vocal student of today. She operates her school with consistent and unique principles of vocal instruction, and incorporates performance techniques, beginner piano and guitar, and songwriting tutoring into her repertoire. Jody not only encourages her students to excel at their craft, but helps her students believe that they can go far beyond any limits or boundaries that they may have pre-set for themselves.

On January 29, 2005 Jody's students will be featured, along with her band, in the L.I.V.E. - Rock for Life Concert, a charity event to be held at The Stone Pony, Asbury Park New Jersey, benefiting Yellow Ribbon International® (www.yellowribbon.org). Yellow Ribbon International® is an outreach program of the Light for Life Foundation International® which supports the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention by promoting awareness of the teenage suicide epidemic and developing and communicating prevention strategies through its Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program®.