

I Only Have Eyes For You – *The Life and Lyrics of Al Dubin*: at the Montalban

By Cat Conner | The International Review of Music



I had a wonderful surprise when I attended the first pre-view of Corky Hale's new show *I Only Have Eyes For You, The Life and Lyrics of Al Dubin* at the Montalban theatre in Los Angeles. I am not really a fan of musicals but this one had me sitting up in my seat, laughing and enjoying the lighthearted, easy fun. It's a great story punctuated by deeply heartfelt moments but it wasn't long before the hilarious scene changes took us to another place or another song.

Jared Gertner really was Al Dubin; a sweet, kind of sexy cherub who sang with grace and then gave me goose bumps on his last song! The charming Nikki Bohne played his wife Helen with a lot of heart and some great pipes!

There were many dazzling versions of some memorable songs like: "For You," "We're In The Money," "You're Getting To Be A Habit With Me" and "September In The Rain." And "42nd Street" was a show stopper!

The whole cast was delightful and it felt like they were truly having fun. The scene changes included some lively, comical, tongue-in-cheek dancing that kept the show moving along at a lively pace.

The sensitive and spirited arrangements written by musical director Gerald Sternbach really enriched the production. The 10 piece band was sensational, especially the woodwinds: Phil Feather and Greg Huckins, as well as the cellist John Krovoza.

My date, Gene Cipriano is an old friend of Corky Hale's and we were able to tell her how much fun we had! She said "I wanted the audience to leave knowing they had heard some marvelous, inspiring music, had lots of laughs and left there feeling uplifted "

We certainly did! It opens this Friday the 13th and will continue for a month through June 12....Don't miss it!