

Album Press Release



Artist: **Ray Gelato & Kai Hoffman**
with The Ray Gelato Giants

Album Title: **'Hey Boy! Hey Girl'**

Release Date: 14th March 2011

Label: Double Scoop Records (Nova dist)

Cat. No: DSRG07

Press Launch Party: Weds 2nd March 2011 at 6:00pm
Ronnie's Bar at Ronnie Scott's W1

Live Dates: Various UK, See below.

The golden age of the vocal duet is back!

'Hey Boy! Hey Girl!' is a brand new album of classic girl/boy duets by 'The Godfather of Swing' **Ray Gelato** and American songstress **Kai Hoffman**.

The album features 16 classic vocal duets ranging from smoky ballads to up tempo swinging tunes from composers including Cole Porter, Ira & George Gershwin and Irving Berlin. Classics such as 'I've Got You Under My Skin', 'The Lady Is A Tramp' and 'Let's Call The Whole Thing Off' sit alongside arguably lesser known songs like 'Undecided' (Robin/Shavers) and 'If I Didn't Care' (Jack Lawrence).

Inspired by double acts such as Louis Prima and Keely Smith, Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald, Ray has wanted to record a duets album for some time:

"The problem was finding someone who was compatible with me vocally, and who understood the concept. I was very lucky to find that someone in Kai Hoffman," he explains, "She is that rare breed of singer that really makes one believe in the song."

'Hey Boy! Hey Girl!' will tour in the UK throughout Spring/Summer 2011. To celebrate the release of Hey Boy! Hey Girl!, Ray and Kai will be hosting an exclusive invitation only album release party on Wednesday 2nd March at Ronnie Scott's Bar in London, where they will perform a selection of tracks from the album.

- * Ray Gelato and Kai Hoffman are available for interview
- * Hi Res press photographs are available on request
- * Review copies of Hey Boy! Hey Girl!! are available.
- * Launch Party strictly by invitation only, contact us for details
- * Official Websites: www.raygelato.com www.youtube.com/cookinwithray www.kaihoffman.co.uk

HEY BOY! HEY GIRL! LIVE DATES (More to be announced):

27 th February 2011	The Radlett Centre, Radlett, Herts
2nd March 2011	CD Launch Party, Ronnie's Bar, Ronnie Scott's, Soho, London
4 th March 2011	The Stables Theatre, Milton Keynes
11 th March 2011	Hepcats Holiday, Pakefield
20 th Mar 2011	Cambridge Arts Theatre, Cambridge
2 nd April 2011	The Common Room, Sheffield
17 th April 2011	Pizza Express, Maidstone
28 th April 2011	Epsom Playhouse
15 th May 2011	The Capitol Theatre, Horsham
20 th May 2011	Huntingdon Hall, Worcester



RAY GELATO

Considered by many to be one of the last in a long line of classic jazz entertainers, Ray's first musical influences stemmed from his father, a US airman, living in London whose extensive record collection included Sammy Davis, Dean Martin and Bill Haley. Later Ray discovered the sounds of Louis Jordan and Louis Prima, who would have a huge affect on him musically. On taking up tenor sax as a teenager, Ray was introduced to such greats as Coleman Hawkins, Lester Young, Illinois Jacquet, Ben Webster etc.

Ray Gelato has performed throughout the UK, Europe, USA, Canada and Brazil at prestigious venues, festivals and events such as The Blue Note (NYC), Edinburgh Festival, The VE Day celebrations in Trafalgar Square, Proms In The Park, Montreal Jazz Festival, Sir Paul McCartney's wedding, The Ritz London for HM The Queen and he opened for Robbie Williams at The Royal Albert Hall. Recently Ray headlined the 1940's Torch Club at the inaugural Vintage At Goodwood Festival held in August 2010 and completed a sold out two week run of shows at Ronnie Scott's in London.

His multiple award nominations include BBC Radio 2 Jazz Awards, Jazz Artist Of The Year, Best Of Jazz, BBC Radio 2 'Heart Of Jazz' Award. In 2007 Ray won Ronnie Scott's Jazz Award for 'Best UK Small Band'.

Gelato has performed live with his band on many TV shows and his songs have made many TV and movie appearances including Enigma, Scandal, Inventing The Abbotts, The Perfect Man, Levi's Dockers commercial, No Reservations and most recently his version of 'If You Were The Only Girl In The World' was featured in the US TV series 'Hung'.

A keen cook, Ray has published a collection of his recipes collected during his extensive travels as a musician. Out now, 'Cookin' With Ray' comes complete with CD of his songs to cook along to and he has set up an accompanying Youtube channel.

www.raygelato.com www.youtube.com/cookinwithray



KAI HOFFMAN

Hailing from Massachusetts, Kai Hoffman has been a resident at Ronnie Scott's since 2008 with her band Kai's cats. Kai and her cats are prolific performers at London's premier lindy hop swing dance clubs and festivals and feted venues such as Proud Cabaret. Kai also presents her own show 'Live And Let Jive' on Ronnie Scott's radio and hosts her own night by the same name at the legendary jazz venue.

Originally trained as a classical musician at The Manhattan School Of Music, Cologne's Hochschule Fur Musik and The Royal College Of Music, Kai has played with musicians such as Nigel Kennedy, Jamie Cullen and Cleo Lane and comedian Bruce Forsyth, as well as with orchestras including the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

www.kaihoffman.co.uk

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