

## **Review by Stu Hamstra, Cabaret Hotline Online**

"On Friday, October 15th, I saw two shows, the first being Los Angeles based Lorraina Marro's "You Must Believe in Spring" show at DANNY'S SKYLIGHT ROOM, NY. I received this lady's CD quite some time ago, which I enjoyed immensely. Musical director Tedd Firth, who Ms. Marro had only met a few days earlier, led his trio as though they had played this show a dozen times before. The result was a polished, professional performance. With heavenly vocals that lean to the jazz style, this was an evening that I enjoyed completely. I look forward to a return visit from that super singer soon.

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## **Review of Lorraina Marro at the Catalina Bar & Grill by Gina Zollman, Beverly Hills Outlook**

The recent CD release party for Lorraina Marro's first recording, "You Must Believe In Spring," held at the new Catalina Bar and Grill in Hollywood, was a stellar event, almost reminding me more of a lavish wedding than a jazz/cabaret show! With over 100 guests in attendance, there was a festive atmosphere as all awaited the lady of the moment, Lorraina Marro.

Decked out in a figure-hugging black sheath with a sparkly, sequined shawl, Lorraina humbly assumed the diva position center stage and really let go. Unassuming and sweet-natured, Lorraina Marro delivered on the promise of her professional-looking promotional materials and great website: she was so elegant and easy-going and naturally charming, pulling off this high-pressure coup like she had been doing it forever.

Lorraina Marro's voice was dreamy and consistently smooth, with a slight, sweet vibrato. Her end notes were held out for all to admire, so true and clear and bell-toned. She gave a lovely, understated rendition of the musical theatre standard "If Ever I Would Leave You" from "Camelot," an excellent choice of material for her. Many of the songs I had never heard before; they were lyrically very rich, and the tunes were pleasing, all in the right key for Lorraina's sumptuous vocals.

Miss Marro shone with inner and outer beauty on her title song, "You Must Believe In Spring," so filled with hope and a longing for things to work out. More very real and personal patter followed, informing us of recent performances in Las Vegas, a semi-finals finish at the San Francisco Cabaret Festival, and other indications she is making a wonderful name for herself in this area of show business.

"Soon" was one of my favorites of the day, uptempo and jazzy, a signature tune, to be sure. This seldom sung Gershwin selection stole my heart, and the arrangement was stunning, with only short instrumental solos, and some musical puns (a la Gershwin's American in Paris) just to see if you were paying attention.

Lorraina finished up her delightful set with an encore, after a rousing and well-deserved standing ovation. "The Shadow of Your Smile" was a pleasing, sentimental coda to an honest, well-rehearsed and superbly mounted CD party to beat the band. This song was really a salute to that saloon singer extraordinaire, Sinatra, and capped a classy and musical morning. Well done, Lorraina and company, they don't make 'em like you anymore.

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"Ms. Marro was FANTASTIC and silly and an incredible singer, and we all really enjoyed her a great deal, and were particularly moved that a star like that would commit herself to be a regular part of your efforts. Her performance reminded us all of better times and her voice took us all to a better place."

***Excerpt from an e-mail from a commanding officer of a Special Operations unit regarding the video he and his unit watched of the Gala for Children of Heroes.***

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"There's that moment of magic when the night and the day are precisely balanced on the horizon; and magic is in the gentle breeze.

There's that moment of magic when the air is so still that you can actually hear inspiration call to you.

And there's Lorraina Marro on stage.

Her gentle craftings, lyrical excellence, charm and style wrap around any song that she sings to perfection.

She takes the stage, the audience noisily busies themselves with their drinks or whatever, then suddenly become silently rapt by the pure magic she weaves."

***Richard Steinberg, National Chair  
The Gala Benefit For The Children Of Heroes***

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