



KEY FEATURE

Dario Meets - Stephen Lloyd-Morgan

By Dario Poli

I have often been surprised by how particular and significant events in my life have transpired without much intervention on my part. This perception can surely apply to a dashing Welsh tenor from the Rhondda Valley, South Wales, Stephen Lloyd-Morgan, who I first saw perform last year at the glamorous Butterfly Ball, supporting the Rhys Daniels Trust Charity, held at the Puente Romano. Hearing him sing, (I must confess, that I was not listening to those around me), I studied his vocal range and Italian pronunciation. Both impressed me and I recall writing an article for this very magazine in Issue 66, where I wrote, "...highlighted by the terrific voice of opera singer Stephen Lloyd Morgan as his repertoire of romantic Italian songs permeated the warm gentle evening breeze."

His voice and singing style brought back fond memories of my father, Fabio, who was a trained opera singer, but in fact made his reputation more with popular romantic songs that were in vogue during the twenties and thirties, including some performances with Mantovani.

I was first introduced to Steve by his dedicated manager, Nick Holland, at the Hotel Incosol where he was to sing for the Agustin Torralbo Couture Fashion event "Marbella Marbella," organized by Morten Rongaard, with Scandinavian magazine Solkysten and sponsored by Fischer Mercedes Consulting and Nykredit. He had generously offered to sing at our event to help the Marbella Marbella campaign.

Steve is of a wiry build, with a rugged good-looking type of

face that retains a sense of innocence. A shy reserve hides a determined and professional approach to his art, and watching him rehearse, I noted the perfectionist in him. Nick had described him to me as shy, quiet and extremely unassuming. It was therefore surprising that this was the same person who sang such breathtakingly powerful songs. Besides his great voice, he is undeniably a born entertainer with a friendly open countenance, which belies how hard he actually works.

Following introductions by TV presenter Christina Pita, Steve opened the show and was given the task, of welcoming the over 400 guests, by asking them to raise their glasses to Marbella and drink the new Marbella Marbella wine, specially prepared for the occasion.

With great aplomb and charm, he sang the Brindisi drinking song from Verdi's La Traviata, and really got the audience with him. He finished his set in fine style by singing a dramatic song from the musical "Starlight Express". By the tumultuous applause he received, the delighted audience was clearly sorry to see him go, but he had to leave us, as he is in much demand.

Steve, along with other singers, recently recorded the song "The Prayer for Haiti" produced by Steve and Nick Holland, with co-producer and promoters Maurice Boland and Talk Radio Europe. It's an emotive charity single and a beautiful production. Compliments to them all and I urge the readers of this magazine to buy a copy of this Charity Single and help the victims of the disaster. "The Prayer for Haiti" <http://www.slmlive.com/theprayerforhaiti>.