

KEY FEATURE

Xmas - A Time of Joy and of Reflection



By Dario Poli

Over the last few years I have often been asked to write something about my musical career, and I always put it off. But recently a compilation of mostly live recordings of my sister Delia and I has been produced, as seventies music is making a revival. So as we are coming up to Xmas, I remember with fondness the many shows we performed, with and to wonderful people during this happy time. I would like to use this article to thank Sandy, the owner of this great little magazine, for all the support she has generously given me, as well as Gina Fornell, John and Delia Hamblin, David and Linda Mairs, Patti Senker, Martyn and Nessie Smith-Wood as well as others, too many to mention here, in the campaign for a more positive Marbella and Costa del Sol

“Dario and Delia, Two of a Kind,” genuine brother and sister singing artists, burst onto the professional British music and Cabaret scene in the early seventies and were catapulted spectacularly onto the highest reaches of their profession working on shows with many of the great names in show business. Buddy Greco, Olivia Newton-John, Dave Allen, Bruce Forsyth, Julie Felix, Tommy Cooper, Ronnie Corbett, The Bachelors, Leslie Crowther, Ken Dodd, Frankie Vaughn, Frank Ifield, The Grumbleweeds, just to mention a few. For years they travelled the world as musicians and cabaret artists, performing their romantic brand of singing, in the finest venues in Europe, such as the exclusive Quaglino’s London, Cesar’s Place, Café De Paris, Talk of the Midlands, and the Kalastjatorpalla in Finland, appearing on radio and TV and were joint winners in a popular professional British TV contest.

Members of her own profession admired Delia’s beautiful singing qualities and energy, and as a songwriter, Dario penned some two hundred songs and musical compositions many published at the time, publishers being “Valentine Music Ltd” and “Boosey & Hawkes Ltd”, London. He particularly enjoyed writing songs to be sung by Delia, as her lyrical voice and range offered him a variety of musical

options to help inspire and create his ideas. As a composer, he has worked with several important record producers, one being the brilliant Roberto Danova, who with Dario, co-wrote the music to Nostradamus 1999 which sold in 64 Countries, and Dario wrote both the lyrics and music for his stage musical “Nostradamus.”

Prior to the passing of Princess Diana, Dario co-wrote the Music and Lyrics with Patrick L.Hulme, for the powerful Musical drama “Lady X The Power of Destiny” (loosely based on the life of Diana, Princess of Wales, produced and recorded in Dublin by REM’s Richard Pine with a large symphony orchestra, opera singers, (including some Riverdance singers) directed and conducted by highly respected musical arranger/director, David Redston.

In 2007, Dario wrote the campaign music “Marbella, Marbella” to promote the City of Marbella, and the song and campaign has received much radio and TV coverage as well as media acclaim.

Dario is currently working on a new album of original symphonic and Jazz music with the Belgian Jazz Legend, Louis Fiers, and recently he completed a CD of original songs with his friend and musician David Mairs titled “Living in the Sun.” This CD includes “Marbella, Marbella” sung by Samantha Mairs, David’s talented daughter.

The recordings on the new CD entitled “Two of a Kind” will give the listener a taste of Dario and Delia’s romantic music, many recorded live, and a touching memento of a different time, when our world seemed to be more innocent, hopeful and carefree.

I wish you all a Merry Xmas and a great New Year.

Dario