

## DUCHESS Press Highlights

“...the vocal trio Duchess is a beacon of jovial esprit.” Bobby Reed, *Downbeat* Editor’s Pick

“Three fine singers—Melissa Stylianou, Amy Cervini, and Hilary Gardner—join together in swinging harmony to whip up music that traffics in delight. Referencing vocal icons from Peggy Lee to the Boswell Sisters, this fresh-voiced triumvirate plays it straight from the heart, leaving any trace of camp or postmodern irony at the door.” – *The New Yorker*

“This threesome devises original arrangements of mostly vintage songs, both familiar and offbeat. They understand that swinging music goes hand in hand with an audacious sense of humor.” – Will Friedwald, *Wall Street Journal*

“A knowing update of the Boswell Sisters sound.” – *The New York Times*

“Vocalists Amy Cervini, Melissa Stylianou and Hilary Gardner turn up in their playful yet elegant new collaborative trio, Duchess, heard on a winning new self-titled debut.” – *Time Out NY*

“On the plus side of the leger is Duchess, a new threesome comprising top-notch stylists Melissa Stylianou, Amy Cervini and Hilary Gardner.” – Christopher Loudon, *Jazz Times*

“DUCHESS...is a serious musical force, but it makes some seriously friendly music.” – Dan Bilawsky, *All About Jazz*

“That original blend of sauce and swing deservedly make DUCHESS stand out.” – Nick Bewsey, *ICON Magazine*

“All the warmth of a friendly embrace, all the fun of a day spent with good friends.” – Dave Sumner, *Bird is the Worm*

“More hop than Kim Kardashian in tights, these ladies make singing so fun you want to join in.” – George Harris, *Jazz Weekly*

“...a self-assured trio of rising-star vocalists...who delve deeply into the legacy of the Boswell Sisters yet bring to the fore a comic, sassy and downright suggestive interpretation of their classic songs as well as other “standards” from “I’ll Be Seeing You” to “Lollipop.” – Dan Ouellette, *ZealNYC.com*

“The trio is comprised of excellent singers, who find just the right amount of wit, swagger, sincerity and just plain fun in 13 tracks...” – Chris Smith, *Winnipeg Free Press*

“Strong soloists in their own right, Duchess sang spot-on harmonies, phrasing seamlessly together like a big-band horn section, adjusting their vibratos to sound like one instrument.” – *NYC Jazz Record*, live performance review

“...room for a bit of dancing yet the jazz vibe is sufficiently loose and true for comfort too. A fun listen.” – Stephen Graham, *Marlbank.net*

“...just the right mix of camp and levity, and just the right amount of musicality that makes “Duchess” anything but overly nostalgic.” – Jon Poses, *Columbia Tribune*

“Their close harmony performances are startlingly alive and full of surprises, tempo changes, and sophisticated play.” – Michael Steinman, *Jazz Lives*

“Close harmony and pure fun” - Bob Bernotas

“Sassy, sweet, fun, playful, melodic, carefree and happy, all those positive adjectives (and more) should tell you that the trio known as **Duchess** have made a debut recording that should bring a smile to your face.” – Richard Kamins, *Step Tempest*

“One word best describes Duchess – delightful!” – Joe Lang, *Jersey Jazz*

“...they sound like they’ve been singing together all their lives. Worth seeking out.” – Sally Evans-Darby, *Jazz Journal, UK*

“*Duchess* are a blend of vivacious élan and lyrical allure...” – *Jazz Da Gama*