



FRANCES LIVINGS IPANEMA LOUNGE

As a lover of foreign languages and a musically curious person, constantly wanting to expand her repertoire, Frances Livings founded Frances Livings' Ipanema Lounge in Los Angeles. Featuring an eclectic mix of professional musicians, she regularly performs a unique, interesting international repertoire in five languages. This sensual, multi-lingual and groovy jazz repertoire, a blend of Mediterranean and Latin jazz in English, French, Spanish, German and Portuguese expresses a rich atmosphere of cultural diversity and guarantees to carry its audience along on an emotional journey.

Frances is a British born singer, songwriter, producer and author, who has lived in Germany and France and has been living in Los Angeles for the past decade. She studied with the prominent German pop and jazz singer Roger Cicero at the Hamburg School of Music, with Anja Glüsing at the Stage Academy and attended further jazz master classes in Germany and Los Angeles. As a vocalist, Frances has a sultry but lyrical contralto voice, comparable with the sound of a cello, she writes and selects the repertoire and together as a band they supply the inventive arrangements.

THE REPERTOIRE

The songs range from dramatic, emotional and melancholic ballads, to fun and groovy up-tempo songs like Sway, Mas Que Nada and Aganjú, whose infectious Tango, Samba and Salsa rhythms will definitely make you want to dance! Some of the songs Frances has written like Come Closer, Samba on the Moon or I'll Be Leaving Soon, other songs are from famous international writers like Leonard Cohen, Michael Franks, Antõnio Carlos Jobim, Gian Marco Zignago just to name a few and have been interpreted by singers such as Natalie Cole, Laura Fygi, Bebel Gilberto and Gloria Estefan.

For the last three years, Frances Livings' Ipanema Lounge has been performing at many venues in and around Los Angeles: most recently at LACMA's Latin Sounds, at the Miles Memorial Playhouse and the Promenade Playhouse in Santa Monica, Molly Malone's, Genghis Cohen, Pip's on La Brea, at RedWhite+Bluezz and Mambo's in Pasadena, The

Little Door and Le Petit Paris as well as at corporate and private events. They get a lot of great feedback and their infectious grooves and a creative fusion-approach with soul and pop influences, have already garnered them a loyal audience of both jazz enthusiasts and those who never considered themselves jazz fans!

BAND CONSTELLATIONS & MEMBERS

Depending on the venue, its size and acoustics, Frances performs with different constellations: As a duo at intimate settings like at The Little Door – voted L.A. most romantic restaurant, as a trio (voice, Spanish guitar and upright bass or accordion), as a quintet or even a sextet (adding keyboards, percussion and trumpet).

A core member is the guitarist, musical director, arranger and composer Greg Porée. His credits range from Stevie Wonder to Randy Crawford, his style-diversity from funk to classical. He was a creative founding father of his son's band Ozomatli and for nine years the lead guitarist on the hit TV show *Dancing with the Stars*. He delivers the harmonious guitar tones, interesting arrangements and creative grooves. Together with Frances he is also the co-producer of the new album, *Ipanema Lounge* (Moontraxx Records 2016).

The rhythm section from Brazil are incredible talents – whether on upright or electric bass (Joe Ayoub or Isaias Elpes) or on percussion (Sandro Feliciano or David Leach). They guarantee that lots of very colourful grooves and nuances are always flowing. When performing as a quintet, they include a funky and creative keyboarder (Jeff Colella, Darrell Diaz or Zachary Provost) and sometimes, to top off the melancholic flair, a bandoneón player, violinist or accordionist like Michael Bolger.



One of the goals of Frances Livings' *Ipanema Lounge* is to never lose touch with the intentions of an original tune. With sophisticated interpretations of jazz standards like *Corcovado*, *Pour Te Plaire* (That's All) or *La Vie en Rose* they both capture the mood of the time and infuse these songs with an interesting and seductive Lounge-jazz feeling, or hot contemporary grooves, transporting you to the contemporary bars and lounges of urban metropolises and taking you on a journey to Rio de Janeiro, Barcelona, Berlin or Paris!