

## February 2000

## **Cover headline article — Old Love, New Love**

An Inspiring Evening of Music with Will McMillan

Start the new year with a new show — *Old Love, New Love*. Will McMillan sings from the heart, and pianist/composer Steve Sweeting is an incredible improviser. Together they will stretch out on old standards by Kern, Porter and the Gershwins, mixed with new stuff by Sondheim, Bucchino and Brourman — not to mention some originals.

In 1999, McMillan was one of thirty-seven performers chosen nationally to be a fellow at the O'Neill Theater Center's 10th Cabaret Symposium. His most recent solo shows, *Connected* and *I'm Still Here*, sold out in May and August. He and Sweeting will be releasing a CD of jazz standards later this year.

In the fall of 1998, McMillan was featured in the *Toast of the Town* cabaret benefit gala, singing with composer/songwriter Steve Schalchlin. He has also fronted the pop/rock bands *Cue* and *Q-set*, has performed with *The Adult Children of Heterosexuals*, and has written original music in a folk duo, *Jon & Will*.

In his youth, McMillan appeared in commercials, plays and made-for-TV movies, including *The Four of Us* with Barbara

Feldon, *Bound for Freedom* with Fred Gwynne and *Goldenrod* with Tony Lo Bianco and Donald Pleasance.

He was also a standby in the original production of *Pippin* on Broadway, which according to NEED's Beverly Creasey is no surprise.

"He sings a song about being "Extraordinary," and he is. There aren't enough superlatives, as the song says, to give McMillan his due. He can lift lovely songs out of musicals like *The Secret Garden* and *Assassins* and give them new life...and new (much deeper) meaning. They resonate off the walls and carom around the room like laser beams."

McMillan currently performs with Lillian Rozin in *The Will & Lil Show*, an ongoing frolic of a serious nature.

As Jules Becker once reviewed for NEED, "There's a remarkable joy and limitless fervor in [Will's] renditions that make even the most celebrated standards and over-recorded favorites fresh once again" — which is just what he will do on Wednesday, February 9, when he appears in *Old Love, New Love - An Inspiring Evening of Music* at Scullers Jazz Club, 400 Soldier's Field Road at 8:00pm.

Tickets are \$10, and are available by calling (617) 562-4111, or thru Ticketmaster at (617/508) 931-2000.

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