



New things to say

## L'Estranges in the Night

What do you get when you mix the phenomenal vocal arranging and multi-instrument-playing skills of hot British composer/jazz musician Alexander L'Estrange with the exquisitely sexy, versatile vocals of Joanna Forbes L'Estrange? Answer: the aptly-named, über-talented husband-and-wife duo that is L'Estranges in the Night.

The couple met as music undergraduates at Oxford University in the early 1990s and formed a jazz duo which has been providing tailor-made entertainment for private and corporate events for two decades. Both enjoy glittering international careers. Alexander, whose flagship work *Zimbe!* established his name across the globe, writes for the world's most acclaimed vocal ensembles including The King's Singers and The Swingle Singers. As a jazz pianist and bass player he has recorded with, among others, Kenny Wheeler and Sir John Dankworth.

*"If you wanted to create the perfect 21st-century musician from scratch, Alexander L'Estrange would be your template".* Howard Goodall CBE

Joanna, former Musical Director and soprano of famed *a cappella* octet The Swingle Singers, has performed all over the world, recorded close to 100 film soundtracks and well over 50 albums, and written music for television show *Glee*. She has worked with musicians across the style spectrum, from composers Steve Reich, Joby Talbot and Eric Whitacre, to bands Take That, Pulp and The Pet Shop Boys, to artists Sir Paul McCartney, Scott Walker, Florence Welch, Mary Chapin Carpenter and Mika.

**New things to say** features guest appearances from four of the UK's top jazz musicians, who, together with their leader Alexander L'Estrange, form The "Call Me AI" Quintet.

[www.lestrangesinthenight.com](http://www.lestrangesinthenight.com)

L'Estranges in the Night  
Songs of L'Estrange & Legrand

# This album is dedicated to the memory of Christiane Legrand

(21st August 1930 – 1st November 2011)

I fell in love with Christiane's voice when I was about eight, listening to my mother's collection of early Swingle Singers LPs. I was struck by the purity and apparent effortlessness of her sound; it was unique. Ten years ago, when I was on tour with The Swingle Singers, Ward (Swingle, founder of the group) brought Christiane to see us perform in Paris and, to my delight, she was wonderful, charming and generous with her praise. It was, without a doubt, a highlight of my seven years in the group. When she died last year, I knew

immediately that we should record our favourites of her brother Michel's songs and dedicate this album to her. We have always loved performing his music and no L'Estranges in the Night set is complete without the beautiful *How do you keep the music playing?* It also gave us the perfect opportunity to release some of Alexander's previously unrecorded songs. Christiane, thank you for being my inspiration. This is for you.



Joanna with Christiane, Paris, September 2002

*Joanna Forbes L'Estrange*

October 2012

## 1 **How do you keep the music playing?** 4:25

Music – Legrand; words – Bergman & Bergman © Universal/MCA Music Ltd  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – lead & backing vocals; Alexander L'Estrange – fretless bass

## 2 **Touch the sky** 4:08

Music – L'Estrange; words – Cummings © L'EstrangeMusic/"if up's the word;and a world grows greener" 1950, 1978, 1991 by the Trustees for the E.E.Cummings Trust, from Complete Poems: 1904-1962 by E.E.Cummings, edited by George J. Firmage. Used by permission of Liveright Publishing Corporation  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – lead & backing vocals; Simon Allen – alto saxophone;  
John Turville – piano; Alexander L'Estrange – double bass; Mike Bradley – drums

## 3 **Once upon a summertime** 4:14

Music – Legrand/Barclay; words – Marnay/Mercer © Sacem/Universal/MCA Music Ltd  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – lead & backing vocals;  
John Turville – piano; Alexander L'Estrange – double bass; Mike Bradley – drums

## 4 **So says my song** 4:42

Music – L'Estrange; words – Landesman © L'EstrangeMusic/Bucks Music Group Ltd  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – vocals;  
John Turville – piano; Alexander L'Estrange – double bass; Mike Bradley – drums

## 5 **A friend has gone away** 3:58

Music – Legrand; words – Dréjac/Harnick © Legrand/Dréjac/Harnick  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – lead & backing vocals;  
Alexander L'Estrange – electric piano, fretless bass, guitar, backing vocals

## 6 **Hello life!** 2:56

Music – L'Estrange; words – Magorian © L'EstrangeMusic/Magorian  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – lead & backing vocals;  
Alexander L'Estrange – piano, double bass; Mike Bradley – drums

## 7 **Pack of three** 2:57

Music – L'Estrange; words – Magorian © L'EstrangeMusic/Magorian  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – vocals; Alexander L'Estrange – piano

## 8 **That was then** 1:47

Music – L'Estrange; words – Magorian © L'EstrangeMusic/Magorian  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – lead & backing vocals; Alexander L'Estrange – double bass, backing vocals

**9 On strike 3:03**

Music – L'Estrange; words – Magorian © L'EstrangeMusic/Magorian  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – vocals; Alexander L'Estrange – double bass

**10 I will wait for you 3:14**

Music – Legrand; words – Demy/Gimbel  
© Windswept Music London Ltd/Sacem/Sony/ATV Music Publishing  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – lead & backing vocals;  
John Turville – piano; Alexander L'Estrange – double bass; Mike Bradley – drums

**11 What are you doing the rest of your life? 4:18**

Music – Legrand; words – Bergman & Bergman © EMI Music Publishing Ltd  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – lead & backing vocals;  
John Turville – piano; Alexander L'Estrange – double bass; Mike Bradley – drums

**12 Tea totally 1:37**

Music – L'Estrange; words – Magorian © L'EstrangeMusic/Magorian  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – vocals;  
Alexander L'Estrange – piano, double bass; Adam Riley – percussion

**13 You must believe in spring 5:24**

Music – Legrand; words – Bergman & Bergman © Sacem Spirit Music Publishing Ltd  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – lead & backing vocals;  
Alexander L'Estrange – piano, double bass, backing vocals; Mike Bradley – drums

**14 The summer knows 4:39**

Music – Legrand; words – Bergman & Bergman © Universal/MCA Music Ltd  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – vocals; Simon Allen – soprano saxophone;  
Alexander L'Estrange – electric piano, fretless bass; Mike Bradley – drums;  
Adam Riley – percussion

**15 Legacy of love 4:57**

Music & words – L'Estrange © L'EstrangeMusic  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – lead & backing vocals; Simon Allen – tenor saxophone;  
John Turville – piano; Alexander L'Estrange – fretless bass, guitar; Mike Bradley – drums;  
Adam Riley – percussion

**16 How do you keep the music playing? (reprise) 4:27**

Music – Legrand; words – Bergman & Bergman © Universal/MCA Music Ltd  
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange – lead vocals; Alexander L'Estrange – piano, backing vocals



*“Quality vocal writing and  
impeccable performances,  
capped by the lovely expressive  
singing of Joanna Forbes L'Estrange.  
This CD is a real treasure.”*

Ward Swingle, founder of The Swingle Singers

*“Beautifully performed, produced,  
interpreted and arranged and  
(unsurprisingly) utterly musical at every  
turn. Joanna's voice is stunning.”*

Howard Goodall CBE, composer & broadcaster

**New things to say** was recorded by  
Adam Riley, London, summer 2012  
and edited, mixed and produced by  
Joanna & Alexander L'Estrange  
with assistance from Al Forbes

The CD was mastered by Andrew Thompson  
and manufactured by Sound Performance Ltd  
Photography by Susan Porter Thomas  
Sleeve design by Jan Cisek

All vocal and band arrangements by  
Joanna & Alexander L'Estrange

With special thanks to:  
Ward Swingle, Michael Simmons  
and Hugh & Susan L'Estrange

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# Songs of L'Estrange & Legrand

This album comprises eight original songs by Alexander L'Estrange and seven – one recorded in two different versions – by French composer Michel Legrand. Four of L'Estrange's songs are from his award-winning musical *Hello life!*, written in collaboration with Michelle Magorian, which tells the story of Beth (originally played by Heather Cairncross), a newly-divorced woman with two children, finding her way back into the world. In the poignant *Pack of three* Beth explains to a new boyfriend why she can't go to Paris with him without her children. *Hello life!*, *That was then* and *On strike* are all recorded here in new versions.

The four remaining L'Estrange numbers each have a unique provenance: *Touch the sky* was written for Anita Wardell for a jazz and poetry festival in the Lake District; *So says my song* was written for Joanna "because she always despairs that she can only write sad songs in minor keys!"; *Tea totally* is L'Estrange's light-hearted take on Cole Porter's classic *Tea for two*; and finally, *Legacy of love* was written for the funeral of a close friend, Maggie Simmons, who used to host wonderful house parties in Roccatederighi, Tuscany, with guests including The Swingle Singers, Stacey Kent and L'Estranges in the Night.

Legrand's songs have been recorded by many of the greatest singers in the business including Barbra Streisand, Aretha Franklin, Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald and, more recently, Jamie Cullum. In this the year of Legrand's 80th birthday, L'Estranges in the Night put their stamp on seven of these much-loved songs with their signature-style multi-layered vocals, often accompanied by only double bass or piano, and with echoes of some of their own musical heroes: Carole King, James Taylor, Bill Evans and Joni Mitchell, as well as close-harmony vocal groups of the past half century.

