

JESSICA MARTIN

Jessica Martin is a multi-talented performer whose career has taken her from comedy impressionist to musical theatre leading lady and scriptwriter. She recently received critical acclaim for her one woman show **Sunset Bitch** at the new **Waterloo East Theatre** and was the first artiste to perform in cabaret at the newly refurbished **Savoy Hotel**.

Jessica began her professional career at sixteen, singing with her jazz pianist father at the **St James Club** in Mayfair. She graduated from **Central School Of Speech and Drama** and **London University** with a B.A honours degree in English and Drama. Shortly after that she developed a solo cabaret act as a comedy impressionist. Regular gigs on the comedy cabaret circuit soon landed Jessica her first prime time television success as the sole girl impressionist in LWT's **Copycats** and voice work on **Spitting Image** with regular spots on variety and chat shows as well as guest appearances on a number of **Royal Variety** shows.

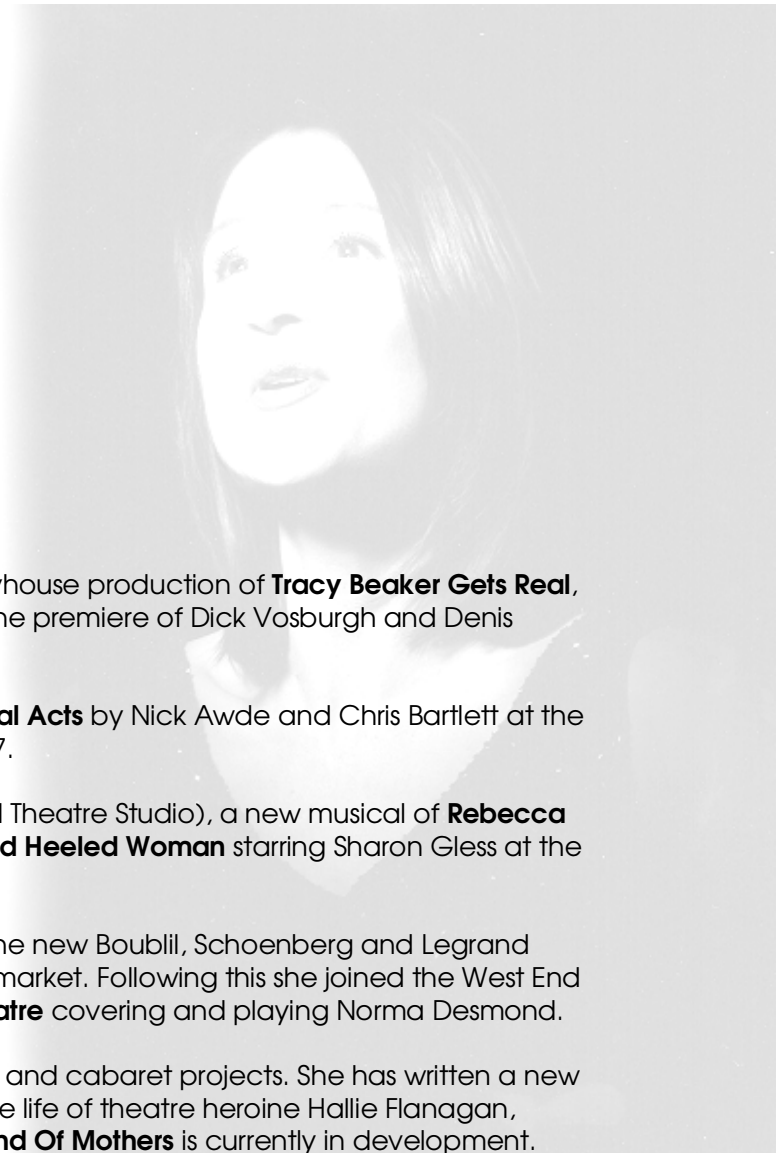
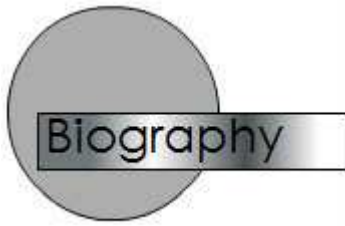
Jessica crossed over to musical theatre when she starred as Sally Smith in the West End production of **Me And My Girl** at the Adelphi Theatre for two years, followed by a sell out national tour.

Other leading roles include Mabel Normand in Jerry Herman's hit West End musical **Mack And Mabel** at the Piccadilly Theatre, Nellie Forbush in a national tour of **South Pacific**, Dorothy in **The Wizard of Oz**, the Olivier award nominated productions of **Babes in Arms** and **The Card**, both at the Open Air Theatre Regent's Park, Mrs Lovett in Stephen Sondheim's **Sweeney Todd** at London's Bridewell Theatre, and Trudy in Dick Vosburgh and Denis King's **A Saint She Ain't**, at the King's Head Islington.

Other plays include **Candida**, **Surprise Party** and **Larkin with Women** plus numerous radio credits including her own Radio 2 special set in forties Hollywood **Cybill Liberty**, **Ned Sherrin's Review of Revues** for BBC Radio 2, and the role of Alma Cogan in Radio 4's **Stage Mother**, **Sequinned Daughter**. She recently played Barbra Streisand in the Radio 4 play **Jack Rosenthal's Last Act**, directed by Maureen Lipman.

She has had a long association with **Ian Marshall Fisher's Lost Musical** seasons amongst which she has played leading roles in **On A Clear Day You Can See Forever**, **Finian's Rainbow**, **Fifty Million Frenchmen** and **Silk Stockings**.

Jessica has also enjoyed success with her one woman shows featuring her movie star alter ego **Veronique Raymond** in **Blame It On My Youth**, **Where Was I**, **Veronique – A Life Long Cult** and **Sunset Bitch** which played at the **New York Fringe Festival in 2005**. She created a new musical comedy **Taste The Love**, which premiered at the **Jermyn Street Theatre** in 2004 and played Pippa and Sylvia in **Exclusive Yarns** at the **Wimbledon Studio Theatre** later that year. She returned to **Jermyn Street** with **Danny and Sylvia** in November 2005.



JESSICA MARTIN (continued...)

In 2006 Jessica toured in the Nottingham Playhouse production of **Tracy Beaker Gets Real**, playing Tracy's mum. She also performed in the premiere of Dick Vosburgh and Denis King's **The UnAmerican Songbook**.

She performed in a two-hander play **Unnatural Acts** by Nick Awde and Chris Bartlett at the Gilded Balloon for the Edinburgh Festival 2007.

Recent workshops include **Bauhinia** (National Theatre Studio), a new musical of **Rebecca** directed by Francesca Zambello and **A Round Heeled Woman** starring Sharon Gless at the Richmond Theatre.

Jessica was one of the original company in the new Boublil, Schoenberg and Legrand musical **Marguerite** at the Theatre Royal Haymarket. Following this she joined the West End cast of **Sunset Boulevard** at the **Comedy Theatre** covering and playing Norma Desmond.

Jessica is currently developing various writing and cabaret projects. She has written a new one woman play **Hallie's Comet** based on the life of theatre heroine Hallie Flanagan, which will premier in 2011. Her screenplay **Band Of Mothers** is currently in development.

She has also recorded four new tracks for her ongoing album projects with **Mark Steyn** and musical director **Kevin Amos**, this time celebrating the work of **Frank Loesser**. And there will be a brand new disco version of **Marshmallow World** coming out for this Christmas. She is also one of the featured artistes on the new **Coronation Street** album with songs composed by Trisha Ward.

Earlier this year Jessica was proud to be one of the featured West End performers in the **Sondheim At 80** concert for the **BBC Proms**.

Her dulcet tones can also be heard as voice over on the current **Bold 2 in 1** campaign on radio and television amongst other household brands!

As a cabaret artiste, Jessica has performed in distinguished venues including **The Ritz**, **The QE2** and several engagements for **His Royal Highness Prince Charles**. She has performed in New York and the South of France.

She has also performed and will continue to perform cabaret engagements at **The Savoy Hotel**.

Jessica has just completed performing in **All I Want For Christmas** at the **Jermyn Street theatre**.

Meanwhile, Jessica is thrilled to have been chosen to play 'Lady of the Lake' in the 2011 tour of **Spamalot**.

Jessica Martin is an honorary patron of **The Music Hall Guild of Great Britain and America**.