

Harold Sanditen

Harold was born in Oklahoma – you know, where the wind comes sweeping down the plain, Oklahoma – and has lived in London since 1987.

In 2007, after 20 years as a UK based theatre producer, Harold decided to move on from producing and do something he'd always wanted to do – give singing/cabaret performance a try and see if he was any good at it!

In September, 2008 he performed his first solo cabaret show, *The Secret of Life*, at The Duplex in New York. He figured if he was going to fail, it shouldn't be on his home turf. The show was successful enough for Harold to bring it to home to London, where he performed it in November, 2008 at Pizza on the Park.

Harold's second show, *Love Exposed*, was performed in London to sell-out houses at Pizza on the Park in October and November 2009, and then in New York at Don't Tell Mama in November. It was reprised at Pizza on the Park in March 2010.

Harold performed his latest show, *Thoughts 'Round Midnight*, in London's newest cabaret venue, The Pheantry (replacement to Pizza on the Park) in September 2010 and then in New York at Don't Tell Mama in October. He reprised it at The Pheantry in January 2011 prior to Chicago, New York and Hornchurch, Essex. *Thoughts 'Round Midnight* returned to North America in June, 2011, where Harold made his Toronto, Los Angeles, San Diego and Palm Springs debuts. Harold also launched a series of Cabaret Monday's at Wilton's Music Hall in January 2011, with a compilation show of greatest hits, and in May, 2011, appeared at The 606 Club in London.

Harold will be returning to Wilton's Music Hall in December, 2011, with a showcase of new material. He will also return to the Pheantry with a new show in January and February, 2012, prior to New York in March, 2012.

Harold's first CD, *Taking Flight*, was released in November, 2010, and includes songs from all three cabaret shows.

In July 2010 attended the International Cabaret Conference at Yale University, studying with Julie Wilson, Sally Mayes, Tovah Feldshuh, Sharon McKnight, Jason Graae, Alex Rybek, and Faith Prince, amongst many others. He was interviewed by Jeff Lunden for an NPR program covering the conference:

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=129031086>

In August, 2009 Harold attended another cabaret performance workshop, *The Art of Cabaret*, in Steamboat Springs, Colorado in August 2009, where he worked with some amazing teachers – Andrea Marcovicci, Karen Mason, Barry Kleinbort, Christopher Denny, Shelly Markham and David Gaines. In May 2007 he attended his first cabaret

performance workshop in Tuscany, of all places, run by Helen Baldassare, an American from New York. Harold has also studied jazz performance with Claire Martin.

In November 2009 Harold began reviewing for *Cabaret Scenes* magazine. His reviews have covered performances in London, New York and Paris, as well as CDs.

As a theatre producer, Harold's productions spanned the smallest scale off-off productions to large scale commercial ones. He worked with a wide variety of performers, ranging from Oscar winners to complete unknowns. Harold was responsible for the UK debut of many North American performers and writers. His producing credits include *Unsuspecting Susan* (London and New York, with Celia Imrie), *The Slow Drag* (Whitehall and Freedom Theatres, London with Kim Criswell), *Abundance* (Riverside Studios, London in a first-time arts sponsorship by Evian), *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me* (UK tour and Lisbon), *The Fabulous Lypsinka Show* (UK tour), *Temporary Girl* (UK Tour and Baltimore), *A Day In The Death Of Joe Egg* (King's Head, London with Clive Owen), *A Shayna Maidel* (with Anita Dobson), *The Boys Next Door* (with Steve Guttenberg and Kathy Burke), *Being At Home With Claude* (with Lothaire Bluteau), *The Real World?* and *Hospitality* (with Lesley Joseph).

Harold has also acted as General Manager on *Definitely Doris* and *Tabloid Caligula* (London and New York). While working for Bill Kenwright from 1999 to 2001, Harold was the line producer on, amongst others, *A Song At Twilight* (with Vanessa and Corin Redgrave), *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof* (with Brendan Fraser and Ned Beatty), *Long Day's Journey Into Night* (with Jessica Lange, Charles Dance, Paul Rudd and Paul Nichols) and *Fallen Angels* (with Felicity Kendal and Frances de la Tour).

Harold is the Vice Chairman of the Board of the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA), one of the UK's top drama schools, and is on the Board of The Playground, the only UK performing arts Creation Space.

Prior to London, Harold lived in New York City where he worked as an investment banker from 1983 to 1987. He holds an MBA from the Wharton School and a BA in Business Administration from Arizona State University. It was a fellow MBA student, with whom Harold performed in the Wharton Follies in 1981, who introduced him to the wonderful world of cabaret performance. He will be forever grateful to her!