

Frankly Sinatra

Sean Hession, aka Frankly Sinatra, has been entertaining the masses with his skillful interpretation of the greats from the Big Band era for years. Performing sell out shows all over the country as well as stunning wedding guests with his uncanny resemblance to Frank Sinatra, Sean's name has become synonymous with first class entertainment. Sean took time out from his busy schedule to chat to us about how his talent came about.

I take it your favourite performer of all time is Ol' Blue Eyes himself? Or are you really a closet Guns n' Roses fan...?

I discovered Frank Sinatra at an early age in my parents' home when I found an old record. I have been a huge fan of Frank Sinatra and his monumental music for as long as I can remember. I went to see him live five times when he was on tour in Dublin. For me, he is the greatest singer of the 20th century and he has influenced every singer in the world.

What is your favourite song to sing at a wedding?

Probably 'Fly me to the Moon' – a salute to new love and life together.

What's your most requested song?

'New York, New York', which I love to perform.

What did you want to be when you grew up?

I think I always wanted to be a singer. Now that I am, it's a real dream come true.

How did you discover your talent for the Big Band era?

Like all good discoveries, by accident. A couple of friends had me announced at a Big Band ball. I sang two songs and the entire room gave me a standing ovation.

I'll never forget the feeling after – elation and shock combined!

What is your favourite thing about performing a wedding?

I have been a professional singer for many years and have performed at big venues nationwide both with my big band and working band. Of all occasions weddings have a certain magic, regardless of size. To start, no two weddings are the same for obvious reasons. Each event is charged with its own energy and good vibes by the individuals and guests taking part. The

goodwill and positivity just abounds and is infectious. To be chosen to play a central role in a couple's unique celebration is truly an honour and I pride myself in being friendly and professional and putting them at ease on the most important day of their lives.

What is your proudest achievement to date?

Without question, working and recording with the marvellous Louis Stewart. (World renowned Dublin Jazz guitarist).

You've had plenty of fantastic reviews written about you by some of the most popular publications in the country, is it weird to read about yourself and your work?

I've been blessed in the past with good reviews for performances and recordings. I always think they are talking about someone else! Like anyone with any job, it's nice to hear positive feedback.

Have you had any mishaps on stage?

We were playing a wedding in Renvyle House in beautiful, remote Connemara. During sound check, my keyboard player couldn't get the board to work for love nor money. The resourceful hotel manager eventually saved the day and returned with a functioning keyboard, albeit a child's pink Casio toy piano, which worked fine. What induced the laughing fit was realising how lucky we were and the fact that the notes lit up every time it was played. Happy days!

Do you have any advice for our readers as they try to choose the best entertainment for their wedding?

Striking a musical balance is key for any event. The music of yesteryear achieves this successfully because the range of tempos, rhythms, lyrics and moods is so diverse (samba, swing, bossa nova, romantic anthems) that

there's something for everyone, young and forever young. Remember that it is YOUR wedding and your choice of music style. If you enjoy the Sinatra/Rat Pack era, you can't go wrong.

And finally, you're playing WeddingsOnline.ie's 10th birthday and Awards Ceremony this February. Are you excited?

Yes, I'm looking forward to it very much!

info@franklysinatra.com
www.franklysinatra.com

