



*“Not the next Ella or Sarah but the first Sophie Milman ... she is one of a kind.”*

-Don Heckman, The LA Times

# SOPHIE MILMAN

## *IN THE MOONLIGHT*

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 2012 – 8PM**

**Prime Tickets \$54.00/Regular Tickets \$49.00**

**For Tickets call 905-305-SHOW (7469) or Toll Free 1-866-768-8801**

**Box Office Hours: Mon – Sat. 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.**

[www.markhamtheatre.ca](http://www.markhamtheatre.ca)

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Toronto, ON, Thursday, January 12, 2012**

Sophie Milman is a charismatic Toronto-based jazz vocalist who's well on her way to becoming an international sensation. She's been a household name in Canada since 2004, when her debut album established her as a major artist in her adopted home country and continues to take the jazz world by storm. The Jazz Times describes her fourth album, *In the Moonlight*, as precisely the kind of recording we could have expected if 'Marilyn Monroe's gifts had included first-rate jazz chops'. Milman's "voluptuous", "naturally warm tone" and sublime interpretive skills signal the unique talents of an "artist assuming her rightful place in the major leagues" of jazz. One of Canada's fastest rising stars, Sophie Milman will delight audiences with a host of jazz and pop standards live at the Markham Theatre at 8PM on Friday, January 27, 2012.

Throughout *In the Moonlight*, Milman's performances elevate a musically and lyrically diverse array of material, encompassing the playful romanticism of the George Gershwin/Buddy DeSylva chestnut "Do It Again," the poignant melancholy of the Kurt Weill classic "Speak Low," the barbed bittersweetness of Serge Gainsbourg's "Ces Petits Riens," the effortless uplift of the Antonio Carlos Jobim/Jon Hendricks bossa nova favorite "No More Blues" and the understated elegance of the beloved Duke Ellington classics "Prelude to A Kiss" and "Day Dream."

The intimacy and immediacy of Sophie Milman's singing reflects the dramatic experiences that shaped her early life. Born in Russia's Ural Mountains, she left for Israel with her parents in an effort to escape the strictures and uncertainties of life under communism. Among the few possessions that her family managed to hold onto was a cherished collection of vinyl jazz bootlegs. Those recordings would become the foundation for Sophie's lifelong love of jazz. Spending her formative years in Israel, Milman continued to gravitate towards jazz. When she was 16, her family emigrated again, to Toronto, where she quickly became a part of that city's rich, diverse music scene. Although she was barely into her 20s when it was released, Sophie's self-titled 2004 debut album became a major hit in Canada, topping the *Billboard* jazz and iTunes charts Canada, the U.S., France and Japan, winning a Juno Award, and captivating audiences worldwide.

Milman's recording success led to performances at such prestigious venues as the Hollywood Bowl, the Kennedy Center, the Montreal Jazz Festival, Toronto's Massey Hall and the legendary Blue Note clubs in New York and Japan. She's also shared stages and/or collaborated with a varied array of musicians from the jazz, pop and rock worlds, including Randy Bachman, Chris Botti, Gary Burton, Chick Corea, the Manhattan Transfer, Cesaria Evora, Jesse Cook and the Neville Brothers.

The final installment of Markham Theatre's Jazz Diva Series features Grammy and Tony Award-winning vocalist *Dee Dee Bridgewater* in a stunning tribute to one of the greatest jazz vocalists of this century. **To Billie with Love. A Celebration of "Lady Day"** takes place on March 21, 2012 and features selections from Dee Dee's CD recording and theatrical performances based on Holiday's autobiography, *Lady Sings the Blues*.

Markham Theatre's *Jazz Diva Series* is sponsored by Minken Employment Lawyers.

### **About the Markham Theatre for the Performing Arts**

**Markham Theatre** is an intimate 530 seat, state-of-the-art performance facility that caters to audiences of all ages with an appetite for a wide variety of entertainment. One of the most well-rounded and exciting seasons ever programmed at the Markham Theatre, the 2011-2012 Season includes more than 60 performances in 10 diverse series, featuring both rising stars and the greatest established artists from the genres of classical music, jazz, world stage, theater, comedy and dance. The 2012 Markham Theatre season continues with a host of exciting presentations from acclaimed artists including **Chick Corea, Julliard String Quartet, Arturo Sandoval, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy**, the legendary **Manhattan Transfer**, and popular favourites **Rhythm of the Dance** who offer an encore performance. Also returning to the Markham Theatre are some of Canada's brightest stars, **Louise Pitre, Michael Kaseshammer**, and **The Canadian Brass**.

Easily accessible, the Markham Theatre is located only 30 minutes from the downtown core and offers world-class entertainment at your doorstep. Flexible package options, student discounts and complimentary parking are available. Markham Theatre offers value priced tickets for students. The **EYE GO to the Arts** program aimed at High School students offers \$5.00 tickets, while college and university students can purchase **UGO** tickets for \$20.00. Student discounts are available upon the presentation of a valid student ID card.

The Markham Theatre 27th Annual Season is proudly presented by **Flato Developments Inc.** Season Media Sponsor: **Markham Economist & Sun**.

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**For media images and clips or to arrange an interview please contact:**

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Markham, a municipality of more than 310,000 residents centrally located in the Greater Toronto area, is Canada's most diverse community and home to many of Canada's leading life science and technology businesses. Recipient of a 2010 *Canada Award for Excellence – Silver* for outstanding achievements in quality, customer service, and a healthy workplace, Markham is renowned for its rich heritage, vibrant neighbourhoods and leadership on the environment and urban design.

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