

## **Juliana Rogachova—A Girl Who Can Sing**

Thanks to a \$1,500 scholarship from the Stanford Jazz Workshop, additional financial help from several very generous donors, and “logistical assistance” from people in both New York and California, Juliana made it to the States on July 21. She stayed in New York with Katchie Cartwright and her family. Katchie is, among other things, chair of Sisters in Jazz. In addition to taking her sightseeing, she worked with Juliana on her music before she went to California and then again before her return to Russia. She also helped her “stock up” on CDs, music scores, and other materials—and she is continuing to give her a lot of advice.

On July 24 Juliana flew to California for two weeks at the Stanford Jazz Workshop—where the “classes started at 9 a.m. and ended at midnight.” In addition to group classes on jazz theory and improvisation, she worked one-on-one with Dena DeRose, whom she thought was an “absolutely wonderful teacher.”

According to Dena DeRose, who teaches in the jazz program at Purchase College in New York, “Juliana's love for singing was inspiring to all the students and staff at the Stanford Jazz Workshop. Many of them, including myself, were amazed at how much she felt for the music—for not having much exposure to jazz. I would love to work with her further. It's a joy for a teacher to have a student as eager and willing to learn as Juliana.”

Juliana wrote that she very much enjoyed working with everyone, including her fellow students at the Workshop who impressed her greatly. She said that she told her Mom in a phone conversation just before her flight home that she really wanted to stay—and keep studying. (We hope to help her return!)

At the end of her first week at the Workshop, Juliana participated in the traditional Friday student concert. A Workshop volunteer suggested to Jan DeCarli, a Board member of the San Jose Jazz Society, that she take the opportunity to hear the “Russian girl” perform. According to Mrs. DeCarli, she and her friends were “astonished at the quality of Juliana's voice.”

Mrs. DeCarli arranged for Juliana—and two other girls from the Workshop—to perform the next Friday evening, August 6, at the “jam session” that preceded the first full day of the San Jose Jazz Festival. With approximately 180,000 in attendance each year, the Festival is the largest gathering of jazz lovers in the world.

The jam session was held at Pete Escovedo's newly opened Jazz Club—with about 200 people in attendance. Juliana sang “Cry Me a River.” She was backed by a combo of professional jazz musicians for the first time in her life. When she finished, she was given a standing ovation—and the musicians asked her to sing another number—something that rarely happens. She sang “All of Me” and was given another standing ovation.

According to Mrs. De Carli, the next day the musicians, who are very difficult to impress, wanted to “know all about” Juliana. The organizer of the jam session, trumpet player Modesto Bresegno, said that he expects Juliana to be a headliner at a future Festival.

NOTE: Terry Haugen, one of the social studies teachers in the Fulbright group who happens to live near Stanford and who heard Juliana perform at the American Home on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, got Juliana from and to the airport in San Francisco, looked after her over the weekend she was there, and drove her to San Jose—making her performance at the Festival possible.

According to Terry, while she was in California, Juliana “got to see the ocean for the first time, albeit through the fog, and was enamored with the sea lions south of Half Moon Bay. She also enjoyed seeing the Golden Gate Bridge. She got to taste her first Chinese food and conquered chopsticks her first try. She was amazed at all of the different people from so many cultures living together.”

In summing it all up from the American side, Katchie Cartwright wrote:

“Juliana Rogachova is definitely a young jazz singer to watch. Not only does she have an uncommonly beautiful and flexible voice, she is extraordinarily musical and disciplined, and she has a great ear. While Juliana’s exposure to American jazz has naturally been limited, she has managed to glean more from limited resources than have many American singers her age with a wealth of information in their backyard. Juliana deserves congratulations for her achievements and support for her continuing education. I expect nothing less than the very best from her in the years to come.”

According to Alexei, Juliana returned home so overwhelmed with her experience that she really couldn’t put it all into words—even in Russian. She did say that even though the schedule at the Workshop was “absolutely exhausting,” the experience was overwhelmingly rewarding. She is even more motivated than before to try to do her very best. And all of her instructors in Moscow have indicated that the experience was definitely worthwhile.

In short, the trip was clearly a major success.