

"He croons. He scat-sings with his own boppy guitar riffs. He strums intimate ballads. He leads his combos through hard-charging flag wavers. John Pizzarelli is too versatile to have the common touch, but as this CD of Ellingtonia shows, he's an uncommon talent."

TIME MAGAZINE

"John Pizzarelli has a new album, 'Rockin' in Rhythm: A Tribute to Duke Ellington,' that furthers his stature as a breezy exemplar of jazz."

THE NEW YORK TIMES

"His fresh, lively arrangements of Ellington's best-known stuff raise this album above run-of-the-mill reworkings, from 'In a Mellow Tone' that opens the disc to 'Cottontail' and 'Rockin' in Rhythm' that closes it."

BOSTON GLOBE

"His best homage yet...Pizzarelli croons, picks economical guitar riffs and scats with a cool swagger, never losing sight of each classic tune's inherent swing."

VIRGINIA PILOT

JOHN PIZZARELLI has had a multi-faceted career as a jazz guitarist, vocalist and bandleader. Internationally known for classic standards, late-night ballads, and the cool jazz flavor he brings to his performances and recordings, he has recently established himself as the consummate entertainer and radio program host with the launch of "Radio Deluxe with John Pizzarelli" a nationally syndicated radio program co-hosted with his wife, Broadway star Jessica Molaskey.

Pizzarelli has been playing guitar since age six, following after his father guitar legend Bucky Pizzarelli. Bucky exposed John to all the great jazz music of the era, from Count Basie and Les Paul to Django Reinhardt and, of course, Nat "King" Cole. "I've always said in my concerts that Nat "King" Cole is why I do what I do." Using greats like Ellington, Cole and Sinatra and the songs of writers such as Rodgers, Gershwin and Jobim as touchstones, Pizzarelli is among the prime contemporary interpreters of the great American songbook, bringing to the work his signature style and brilliant guitar playing.



John Pizzarelli