MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

MTSU
Jazz Artist Series

Jody Nardone

Jazz pianist and vocalist

Thursday, October 22, 2026
7:30 p.m.

T. Earl Hinton Music Hall, Wright Music Building

Program to be announced from stage

The Way You Look Tonight	Music - Jerome Kern (1995 - 1945), Lyrics - Dorothy Fields (1905 -1974)
Strollin'	Horace Silver (1928 - 2014)
Moment's Notice	John Coltrane (1926 - 1967)
Bolivia	Cedar Walton (1934 - 2013)
Country	Keith Jarrett (b. 1945)
Whereabouts	Stevie Wonder (b. 1950)
Black Hole Sun	Chris Cornell (1964-2017)

Personnel

Jody Nardone, vocals and piano
Jack Aylor, bass
Miles Damaso, drums
Don Aliquo, saxophones
Jamey Simmons, trumpet and flugelhorn

JODY NARDONE

"Thanks to a dynamic style that can shift from the whispered beauty of Bill Evans to the percussive flights of McCoy Tyner, Nardone has emerged as one of Nashville's preeminent jazz pianists."
(Michael McCall/Nashville Scene)

Nashville-based (by way of New Jersey) pianist/vocalist/composer Jody Nardone is that rare musician to be both a "singer's singer" and an acclaimed pianist respected enough to be a top call jazz player and improviser.

Jody has performed and/or recorded with folks as diverse as Brian Setzer, Jackson Browne, Bret Michaels, Jeff Berlin, Larry Carlton, Jeff Coffin, Joel Frahm, Chester Thompson, Rod McGaha, Brian Beller, The Floating Men, and around the country and at the Grand Ole Opry with John Cowan and Andrea Zonn's new supergroup, The HercuLeons. Jody is the newest member of the Alison Brown Quintet, with whom he has performed across the U.S. and recorded in the studio, most notably on Alison's newest release with banjo great and star of stage and screen, Steve Martin, on their album, *Safe, Sensible and Sane*, which debuted at #1 on the Billboard Bluegrass Album Chart in the fall of 2025.

Nardone's had his own trio for 20 years. ***"The piano, bass and drums configuration suits me best. There is just the right amount of muscle and power to really move the room as well as enough space for all three instruments to interact, leaving room for my tenor singing voice to fly above all of it."***

Jody Nardone Trio's 2019 Vince Guaraldi Tribute album, *A Charlie Brown Christmas Live in Nashville*, received high praise from Derrick Bang, Vince Guaraldi's official biographer: ***"Nardone, a veritable keyboard monster... is much more aggressive with his improvisational bridges. He favors ambitious chord structures, whereas Guaraldi leaned toward single note runs and filigrees. That distinction is key; it makes this album's listening experience pleasantly familiar, but by no means slavish. Nardone's improv work is playful..."***

Middle Tennessee State University
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