



## **Laura Pausini: Celebrating 20 Years of Extraordinary Career @ MSG**

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Accompanied by 25 musicians, Italian pop singer and international superstar, Laura Pausini performed at the Theater at Madison Square Garden as part of her Greatest Hits World Tour! Produced by FEP Group, the concert was an unforgettable night in which Laura decided to commemorate her 20 years of extraordinary career with some talented friends: award winning artists and close collaborators Gloria Estefan, Miguel Bosé, Biagio Antonacci, Ivete Singalo and Il Volo.

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First guest to appear next to her on stage was Italian singer-songwriter Biagio Antonacci, a longtime collaborator who penned her international hits 'Tra te e il mare' (Entre tú y mil mares) and 'Vivimi' (Víveme). It was a special moment for Pausini's fans who are in love with these love songs, which she performed both in Italian and in Spanish. Antonacci, who also participated in the Miami concert she had before coming to New York, dueted with her only in the performance of Vivimi. "Biagio is the diamond of Italian songwriting music," Laura said to the press in the past, "My fans will be in heaven, because finally they will know who wrote two of the songs they love the most!."

Next in line was Ivete Sangalo, the queen of Brazilian music. The artist is part of Pausini's "20- the greatest hits/grandes exitos" in the exceptional version of "Le cose che vivi/Tudo o que Eu vivo," which they performed live both in Italian and in Brazilian at the concert. "Ivete Sangalo on stage with me at Madison is a dream. She is a queen. An unique voice. A friend that understands perfectly well my sincere love for Brazil," Laura declared to the press.

Following there was a first time performance with the boys from Il Volo. We quickly met them on the morning of the show and they confessed they had never met the superstar and were quite excited to finally perform with her. Despite their young age, tenors Piero Barone and Ignazio Boschetto, and baritone Gianluca Ginoble are incredibly talented and have taken North America and music icons such as Barbra Streisand, with whom they have already performed, by storm. "I recently read they wanted to sing with me and I thought that New York would be the right occasion," Laura told the audience after their performance which was followed by an a cappella version of Il Mondo, an old Italian song by Jimmy Fontana.

The next duet was with one of Spain's most celebrated artists: Miguel Bosé. They performed one of her classics "Te Amaré," which is also included on Laura's latest album "20- the greatest hits/grandes exitos". "Miguel is one of the people in the music world that I am most fond of. He asked me to sing "Te Amaré" because it has a very special and personal meaning to him," she told the press in the past. This was a particular touching moment, as the emotion could be heard in their words and seen in their behavior, especially Bosé's.

Last but not least was Latin music's icon Gloria Estefan with whom Laura recorded a duet titled "Smile" in Italian and Spanish, for Estefan's album "The Standards". "Gloria is one of the world's music icon and one of my idols. For many years it was one of my dreams to record a duet with her. I never imagined that one day she would call me to be part of her latest album," Laura has declared. Their duet was part of the final encore and ended with the two stars calling each other "the queen of Latin American music."

This is proof of the internationality of Laura Pausini's music and talent. Despite her constant effort to represent her Italian music roots in the world, she mostly performs in Italian and Spanish, as well as English, French and Portuguese. "This is what is great about music," she told her audience, "it knows no boundaries and we can convey what we see and feel in any language." Not one song, was performed in just one language, the artist easily switched from one to another, making fans of all nationalities incredibly happy. What made them even happier, was Laura's final song "La Solitudine," the debut single that, back in 1993, introduced her to the music world.

As of today, Laura Pausini has released eleven studio albums, an international greatest hits album and two compilation albums for the Hispanic and Anglophone market only, respectively. All of her albums earned the top-five on the Italian Albums Chart, and six of them reached the first position in Italy. Pausini has also released 14 top-ten singles in Italy, including five number-ones.

She has won numerous music awards, including three Latin Grammy Awards, a Billboard Latin Music Award and four World Music Awards. In 2006 she also became the first Italian female artist to win a Grammy Award. As of 2011, according to Warner Music Italy, Pausini had sold more than 45 million records worldwide.

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