

2009 Ella Fitzgerald Award: John Pizzarelli

John Pizzarelli is the 11th artist to receive the **Ella Fitzgerald Award**, established in 1999 for our 20th anniversary and conferred in recognition of the versatility, improvisational originality and quality of repertoire of a jazz singer renowned on the international scene. With almost 40 albums to his credit, veteran singer-guitarist **John Pizzarelli** honours us once again with his presence.

A past master in the art of reinventing jazz classics, zinging them with accents of swing or pop, he is often compared to legends **Nat King Cole** and **Frank Sinatra**. He's back with seven musical confederates, on a mission to swing the big band sound into our big Festival on Saturday, July 11, 6 p.m., Thetre Maisonneuve, PdA, as part of En voix Rio Tinto Alcan series.

In accepting the 2009 prize, **John Pizzarelli** will be following previous **Ella Fitzgerald** prizewinners:

Aretha Franklin (2008)
Harry Connick, Jr., (2007)
Etta James (2006)
Al Jarreau (2005)
Tony Bennett (2004)
Bobby McFerrin (2003)
Dianne Reeves (2002)
Diana Krall (2001)
Dee Dee Bridgewater (2000)
Diane Schuur (1999)



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