

The Melissa Manchester/Carole Bayer Sager song **Come In From The Rain** has an important meaning for Ron and Angela. “When I met Ronnie, he was mostly writing for small groups. This was his first vocal chart and I was astonished by the arrangement that he came up with for a 25-piece orchestra with five French horns. I got to sing this song at our wedding so it will always have a special place in my heart.”

On **Green Dolphin Street** is taken as a swinger with a hot alto solo from Todd Bashore and a speedy scatting section that Angela originally sang in unison with Ron.

Of **My One And Only Love**, Angela says “This is my all-time favorite ballad. I remember driving neighbors crazy by playing the Nancy Wilson recording 20 times in a row.” During this song, Angela shows just how superior a ballad interpreter she is, really getting into the lyrics while Ron’s arrangement perfectly frames her voice. Trombonist Wayne Goodman contributes a solid statement of his own.

Back in the 1970s, Ron Aprea studied with the great altoist Phil Woods. They remained close friends for decades and, when Ron composed **For Phil**, Woods was still around and appreciated the tribute to his life and career. He would have also been happy about Todd Bashore’s playing on this new version.

The memorable set concludes in a logical fashion with a brief rendition of **The Curtain Falls**, an emotional ballad that Bobby Darin used to sing. It gives one a final chance to hear Angela’s lovely singing, at least until one begins listening to this album again!

Ron sums up *Swinging With Legends 2*: “I put my heart and soul into this project. I think that this surpasses the earlier album, Angela sounded wonderful and the musicians all gave a great deal of themselves. We are both hoping that with the release of this album, we will be able to play this music for many audiences in the future.” While there is competition from some of their earlier recordings, *Swinging With Legends 2* is certainly one of Ron Aprea’s and Angela DeNiro’s finest hours.

Scott Yanow

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Recorded live at Mozart Studio on October 26, 2022
Little Falls, New Jersey, Engineered by Kostadin Kamev
Mixing & Mastering Red Button Audio, Smallwood, New Jersey, Engineered by Bill Moss
Graphic design & photography by Christopher Drukker
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