

# Jarlene Wilkinson



## Biography

Jarlene Wilkinson, otherwise known as Jhing, originates from Bicol, Luzon, The Philippines. She can sing solo or as member of a group., and currently performs as a soloist at the Marco Polo Prince Hotel, TST, where she plays the piano and gives her own renditions of a wide range of classic and contemporary music. Jhing's repertoire of songs includes oldies, jazz, standards, country, disco, soul, pop and rock ballads. Jhing can also sing Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese and Spanish songs.

Growing up in Metro Manila, Ms. Cusi's love for music was influenced by her mother, Estrella, and her father, Jesus, as she would listen to them sing together in a rock band. She started to sing at the age of 10, and after two years, participated in many singing competitions including "Duet Bulilit" and "Teen Pop Star" on the entertainment television programme, "Magandang Tanghali Bayan (MTB) Ang Saya Saya". Jhing competed against over 50 other singers and reached the Grand Final of "Duel Bulilit". Both of her performances on Teen Pop Star and Duet Bulilit were aired on Abs-cbn Channel 2.

At the age of 13, Jhing would take further singing lessons at the Center for Arts at Quezon City where she would later perform in front of 1,000 people at a concert at the Music Museum in Greenhills Ortigas, Manila. Based on her performance at this concert, Artist Manager, Mr. Noi Noi Aguila selected Jhing to become a member of the harmony singing group "Kids of The Nation". Kids of The Nation were a band of five talented child singers who performed at concerts in Manila. Their second concert was a large free concert, sponsored by Garfields, Kraft, Bahay Bata and SM Malls and held at the Clark Expo, Angeles City, Pampanga.

In December 2004, Kids of The Nation also performed a number of Christmas songs with well known singer, Gary Valenciano, at Podium Mall, Ortigas which was aired on the early morning TV show, Unang Hirit. The group would go on to sing at birthday parties at the homes of celebrities such as singer Pilita Corrales and action star Fernando Poe Jr. They also performed at Malacañang Palace where they sang in front of then President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

**T:** +852 6110 9685      **E:** jhingcusi@yahoo.com

**Youtube:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCy16Awmjk97xKO53vVJ-ozg/featured>

During 2003 and 2004, Kids Of The Nation embarked on a nationwide tour of SM Malls. Shortly after this tour, the group disbanded. At the age of 15, Jhing decided to change her music genre and started to sing rock and R’N’B music and joined a covers band with whom she performed with until the age of 19.

In 2008, she decided to experience life in another country and moved to Hong Kong where she explored and learned more about music. It is here where she began to expand her knowledge of music by learning oldies and classics.

Jhing is a self-taught pianist and has remained in Hong Kong where she has performed in a number of hotels. In addition to singing at hotels, she also has performed at a number of functions including weddings. She has sang at venues such as Hong Kong CEC Grand Hall, Island Shangri-La, The Peninsula Hotel, The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Renaissance Hotel and The Hong Kong Country Club at Deep Water Bay.

### **Career Highlights**

Grand Finalist of “Duel Bulilit” on the TV show “Magandang Tanghali Bayan (MTB) Ang Saya Saya”

Learned classic singing at Center For Arts at Quezon City

Performed in front of 1000 people at the Music Museum in Greenhills Ortigas, Manila in 2003

Performed as a member of the kids group “Kids Of The Nation” from early 2003 to late 2004

Sang in front of President Arroyo and celebrities such as singer Pilita Corrales and action star Fernando Poe Junior. Performed with singer Gary Valenciano at Podium Mall, Ortigas for the early morning TV show Unang Hirit

Took part in a nationwide tour of SM Malls in The Philippines

Became a professional singer since the age of 15

Moved to Hong Kong in 2008 and has performed in hotels both as a solo singer/pianist and as part of a group

### **Experience**

#### **THE CONRAD HOTEL, ADMIRALTY : JANUARY 2016 - PRESENT**

Dynamic Jazz singer with full band at the “Lobby Lounge Bar” in evenings from Monday to Saturday.

#### **THE MARCO POLO PRINCE HOTEL AND THE MARCO POLO HOTEL HONGKONG TSIM SHA TSUI : JUNE 2010 – DECEMBER 2015**

Solo singer and pianist at the “Lobby Lounge Bar” and “Cucina” Fine Dining Restaurant in evenings from Tuesday to Sunday

#### **GOLDCOAST HOTEL, TUEN MUN, NEW TERRITORIES : JUNE 2008 - MARCH 2011**

Sang classic and jazz songs as a member of a group at the “Atrium” on Sunday Brunch and Public Holidays

#### **KING LUDWIG RESTAURANT, TSIM SHA TSUI : NOVEMBER 2008 - JUNE 2010**

Sang as a member of a group at this famous German Restaurant in Tsim Sha Tsui every Saturday and Sunday evening

#### **REGAL ORIENTAL HOTEL, KOWLOON CITY : SEPTEMBER 2008 - MAY 2010**

Sang at the “Sky Lounge” in evenings from Monday to Saturday

#### **EXCHANGE TOWER, KOWLOON BAY : NOVEMBER 2009 - APRIL 2010**

Sang at “Satay Satay”, a Singaporean & Malaysian Restaurant, during Happy Hour from Monday to Friday

#### **ISLAND PACIFIC HOTEL, SHEUNG WAN : JANUARY 2009 - DECEMBER 2009**

Sang at “The Bar” during Happy Hour from Monday to Friday

#### **CITY GARDEN HOTEL, NORTHPOINT : APRIL 2008 - AUGUST 2008**

Sang at “Admirals Bar” in evenings from Monday to Saturday



