



Name: Anna Jacyszyn

Tell us about yourself: I am a singer mostly in the genre of Jazz – I moved away from Kelowna right after graduation and moved to England to forge a path in the music business. I started out doing mostly pop music and dance but found jazz and realized that was going to be my destiny of choice. I have travelled the world, sang before royalty – British, Arabic, French and Monegasque – World Cups 2002 (Japan, Korea), 2006 (Germany), Ryder Cup (Golf) and a plethora of very high profile concerts, cementing me as a professional singer. I moved back to Kelowna after visiting my parents and meeting the man I have been married to for the past 10 years!

What was your style of dance and why did you choose that one? We danced a mixed genre of Disco and something else – I had a tearaway dress that came off to reveal a very fun costume

How did you first learn about Swinging with the Stars? I was asked to be a Judge one year, with the success of my Jazz Café series and awards that I was winning after that evening I wanted so badly to dance that I instigated this to happen and my friend Garry Benson, who danced the year before to be my fund raising manager.

What was your connection to COHA at that time? I had no connection to COHA but had friends (Rose Sexsmith, Gordon James) who were involved.

What is your favourite memory from your performance? The actual dance of being raised off the ground and spun around then dropped – we still to this day had the best dance choreography, I just wasn't the best dancer, but it felt good!

Are you still dancing today? Only in my living room

What backstage moments stand out to you today? We were treated so well with hair and makeup done for us – we got to eat lovely food and it truly felt like we were stars.

Has this experience inspired you to do other life changing things? I had so many ideas after that, wanting to be the backstage roving reporter as there was nothing like that at the time. I really felt close to COHA after that experience.