



JOHN RAGUSA MUSIC

## CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

### 2011:

"Thanks John - Our DJ Craig did a great job. Pleasure working with you. We had a fantastic wedding."  
*Heather and Brian Perkins*

"Thank you for the congrats. Derek and I had such an amazing day! We loved the music! All of our guests are still raving how amazing the music was. Jeff's band was really something special. Thank you again for all your help. We will definitely keep you in mind for future event music needs."  
*Erika Entinger and Derek Green*

"Thank you for helping me make JZE's inaugural event not just a success, but a stunning and memorable weekend that won't be soon forgotten. Your creativity, dedication, and collaborative style made working in a constantly changing setting a pleasure and enabled Judy's vision to come to life! I could not have done this without you by my side! Here's to the next one!"  
*Jennifer Zabinski – Jennifer Zabinski Events*

"Thank you so much John, for all your time, insight and finding the perfect sound for us with the Casbah Quartet – they were AMAZING and everyone raved! Thank you as well for that beautiful rendition of Peter Gabriel's 'In Your Eyes'! Friends and family were in tears. I am certain we will cross paths again someday."  
*Merav Sharabi and Hank Diamond*

"The band was fantastic - everyone loved them. We were indeed thrilled with the music and had a completely magical time. Many thanks!"  
*Johanna Smith and Ben Hunting*

"The Indian music was absolutely amazing!!! They created a magical feeling for our ceremony and cocktails. Thanks for suggesting them to us and organizing everything. We will definitely be in touch if we ever need help with music for an event!"  
*Marcella Frydman and Jason Manoharan*

"Thanks so much for this weekend. Donna and the band rocked the house. Every guest had a great time and the music contributed so much to this."  
*Wendy Pei and Carl Fung*

"While I am technically not supposed to be on email until after I return from our Honeymoon, I would be remiss if I did not thank you for the incredible job you did regarding all aspects of our music during the evening. Mulebone was fantastic and the DJ was excellent! Thank you again and please feel free to use me as a reference whenever you would like!"  
*Catherine Carota and Keith Grossman*

"We had the best day of our lives! We loved the band and thought their sound really fit in well with the venue. I thought the ceremony songs were amazing. Thank you for helping make our wedding perfect. Please thank the band for us."

*Minhee Park and Andy Le*

"Thanks so much, John! Everything was wonderful, Steve was just the perfect choice for the occasion. Thanks so much for your time and attention to meet with us to make sure we got the perfect musician for our event!"

*Allison Marin and Chris Florczak*

"Everything was amazing! Thank you so much! The music was magical and made our day perfect! We'll be in touch for our next event! Thank you!"

*Vida Mylson and Eric Weiner*

"Thank you so much for your help setting our wedding day to music! You helped us to plan such a special day – Amanda and the trio together were just wonderful! Everyone truly had a very special evening! Thanks you very much for being part of our special day!"

*Lariana Ehrlich and Michael Kirchbaum*

"Aloha from Kauai! Thanks for your awesome performance at our reception. Christine and I could not have been happier - everything was perfect every step of the way and our guests agreed. Please also pass along our sentiments to Hugh and the rest of the band. It was such an awesome day. Thanks again for all your efforts to help make it happen."

*Christine Larusso and Rich Virginia*

"Thank you so much for sending the Casbah duo our way. Their rendition of 'Is It Okay' made me cry almost immediately. And their Gypsy Kings-heavy reception music turned the cocktail hour into an energy-filled party! We were so happy to work with you, every step of the way. Thank you for everything."

*Karen Seo and Daniel Le*

"I just wanted to take a second and say thank you so much for everything. Wali and his band were more than we could have hoped for. They seamlessly blended in during cocktails and while everyone ate and had the perfect energy for after dinner when people got up to dance. They really rocked the house. Everyone loved them. So thanks again for making our wedding a truly wonderful event."

*Adam and Jennifer Deutsch*

"The band was amazing! Vince and his crew did a phenomenal job! We were so thrilled! Our compliments to all of them."

*Michele and Kevah Konner*

## **2010:**

"John it was an absolute pleasure working with you. Peter was fantastic. He is extremely talented and played the songs that meant the most to our founder. It was a fantastic evening and I can't thank you enough for your part in making it that way."

*Judy Irwin – Golden Corral Founder's Dinner*

"We had many people comment on how much they enjoyed the music... all of it... not just the Gospel Choir! Karlus' band was a huge hit and perfectly fit the feel and funk we were trying to provoke during "dance time." Thank you again for all of it. It made such a positive impact on the whole evening. Thank you very much for pulling this all together for us... I will always remember hearing Lou Reed right before I heard The Gospel Choir. Good Karma all around."

*Doug Lehrman and Nancy Newman*

"Thank you so much for everything. The music was fabulous. The songs they played during the ceremony were fantastic, everyone commented on how great it was, even our officiant, who said he thought the song selection and their execution was perfect for the occasion. The cocktail hour was great, really set a nice vibe. It was a pleasure working with you and hope we can do it again sometime."

*Katie Rubel and Mike Allen*

"The music was just spectacular. The band did an outstanding job and they really set the mood for the evening. We really appreciate how well they did with the songs that we requested. We will definitely be in touch for any future music needs."

*Jane Bang and Brian Enriquez*

"Thank you very much for providing such a professional service on my special day. My violinist was great. She was professional as I expected."

*Ayuchi Momose and Jonathan C. Kim*

"Thank you, we absolutely loved Jeff and the band as did our guests. Jeff's voice made every song sound unique and the guests loved the playlist. We couldn't have been happier."

*Lisa Goldstein and David Graff*

"In a word, the music was extraordinary. We, and our guests, have not stopped talking about how great the trio was. The selections, arrangements, sequencing and volume could not have been better. In particular, the trio's renditions of Arms of A Woman, Empire State of Mind and Thunder Road were huge hits. It was never overbearing in a fairly small room and was really just lovely. Everything was literally perfect. It was also a pleasure to work with you. We will no doubt recommend you to everyone we know, and the next time we're looking for music, you will certainly be #1 on our list."

*Margo Pilic and Dan Tehrani*

"We cannot thank you enough for the most outstanding performance during our wedding ceremony and cocktail hour. The music was romantic and beautiful and it really was just what we wanted. We had a slew of compliments on how amazing you sounded and we would recommend you to anyone! You blew us away, so thank you for helping make the day so special."

*Jennifer and Stephen Dobson*

"It was a pleasure doing business with you and we LOVED our music, I just can't say enough about the whole experience, you delivered all and more for our special day. Many thanks to all."

*Bonnie and Peter Kudla*

**2009:**

"John and I were so pleased with your performance at our wedding... you had everyone dancing!"

*Jean and John Keane*

"Thank you for your help organizing the music for our wedding. Peter and Ken were exactly what we wanted for the Bedeken – they knew exactly what to play and how to build energy even for the guests who weren't familiar with the ceremony. We have been getting compliments on Powerhouse since the wedding – our guests had a great time and everyone was dancing until the end. Thanks again, and should we have an occasion, we look forward to working with you again."

*Elizabeth and Marc Tobak*

"Thank you so much for your help in making Saturday fabulous! The musicians were fantastic and all our selections were perfect. Craig was also lovely, and a great DJ and did a good job mc'ing. Thanks again!"

*Kyong Chung and Brad Coleman*

"Everything was great and everyone LOVED the music. In fact I think you got quite a few referrals from that evening. I will definitely be calling on you for future events. Thanks again for everything."

*Jason Friedman*

"The party was a great success. Your guys did a fabulous job. Many of my friends mentioned particularly the music as the element that created the mood for the party. The classical guitars were the only alternative for that special location. I will warmly recommend your services to my friends in the NY area."

*Jussi Salmela*

"Richard and Keith were great, and our guests greatly enjoyed their music. Gosia and I enjoyed working with you, Vince, Keith and Richard, as well. We will keep you in mind for any future music needs, and are happy to recommend John Ragusa Music to others."

*Raj and Gosia Punwaney*

"I had a great time at the party and the music was very appropriate at all times. The group did an excellent job in keeping the perfect ambiance at all times and there were able to get people excited to dance with their music at the right time. A number of guests in particular complemented the performance of the group. Thanks for your help and very professional service – I will definitely will contact you if I need music entertainment in the future."

*Liliana Derth*

**2008:**

"Our wedding was an absolute dream. We were absolutely thrilled with the music! Thank you so much for all of your hard work that contributed to such an unforgettable celebration. Richard sang our songs so beautifully - he and the band were just wonderful; we received so many compliments for them. Tony and I so enjoyed meeting and working with you. Thank you and all the very best."

*Rebecca and Tony Greenburg*

"Marcus and I continue to receive fantastic reviews from all our friends and family on the band - thank you again for your beautiful music and memories of a lifetime!"

*Neha and Marcus Glader*

"Thank you!!! Everyone loved the music. Corbin is a great DJ. All of my friends said that it was an awesome wedding. Corbin listened to what I wanted, how I wanted the flow of music to go, and was able to do it throughout the night. Thanks again for everything."

*Clarissa & Fred Laurente*

"Manny and the band were spectacular! Great music and great people who gave off a terrific vibe! Thanks for all your help. I will definitely send people your way when the opportunity arises."  
*Steve Symonds*

"Thanks so much for all of your help. The music turned out great- the guitar trio was absolutely amazing- I LOVED them! 'In My Life' as well as 'Lost Without You' both came out spectacular. I will absolutely recommend you and hope to be able to use you again as well. I'll be in touch!"  
*Hayley Romer*

"You guys were wonderful. I know the feeling was shared by all of our guests. The music was high quality and great! We'd love to use you again -- just need an occasion!"  
*Herb Myers*

"Before Stephen and I head off to Turkey for our honeymoon, we wanted to send you a quick note with our heartfelt thanks for helping us arrange the music for our wonderful wedding at Blue Hill. It was a fabulous event from weather to food to music. We couldn't have asked for anything better. You were right -- Cookie and the band were just perfect. Our guests danced and really enjoyed the music. It was wonderful to see. All the best and many thanks again!"  
*Barbara and Stephen Lange*

"We absolutely loved the music at our wedding. It fit perfectly in with our schedule and flowed amazingly well. We loved it. We received so many comments from our guests about the music. Everyone had a blast! We cannot thank you and Jeff again for helping to make our wedding day so special. We hope you both had fun playing at our wedding, and we wish you continued success! We hope to work with you again in the future."  
*Alison and Ken Madrigal*

**2007:**

"I'm just calling you to tell you how great the guys were on Saturday. The party was fantastic and they added so much to the overall atmosphere. They were fantastic. We don't have plans right now, but hopefully we'll work together again in the near future."  
*Annette and Matt Lauer*

"The band was outstanding! I really mean it. They were great to work with and the music was the best. Very refreshing after a string of very mediocre bands. The band was the best!"  
*Lynn Wheeler – Events Director, Gedney Farm*

"Just wanted to let you know how happy Elisa and I were with the music at Blue Hill last night. Vintage was flawless. And Powerhouse Band was amazing. We got a ton of compliments about them throughout the night and again today. They were well prepared for what we did and did not want, they stayed late, and they sounded great! People were blown away, and Elisa and I were thrilled. We'd recommend them highly to others. Thank you for all your help. It was a great night!"  
*Marc Ricks and Elisa Strauss*

"Fab to work with you! We loved the band. All our guests loved the band. We were doling out references all night."  
*Brittain Stone*

"I just wanted to thank you again for a wonderful party. The bands, both of them were phenomenal, and everybody had a great time. The guy with the dreadlocks was so great; he was dancing with everybody out on the dance floor! And I really appreciated you coming up. That was above and beyond expectation! Thanks so much for doing that, it was great meeting you! Hopefully we'll be able to refer you to some more New York partiers. So again, thank you and I'll talk to you soon."

*Jane Fehon*

"Just a brief note to say thank you so much for making the event such a success. Your music truly tied the whole thing together. The music was fantastic and the energy was amazing. I truly loved it. I am thrilled to have found you and I look forward to working with you often."

*Lynn Easton Andrews*

"We wish to thank you again for everything you did to make sure the music was just what we wanted. The trio did a great job with the special processional we asked for, as well as setting the tone for the ceremony and the reception. The DJ Craig did a great job choosing music that fit our tastes and matched the mood of the crowd."

*William Kolean*

**2006:**

"The musicians were so elegant and so refined. The selections were just what I wanted! It was a delight and made the party. Outstanding. Everyone asks me where I got the musicians and I keep telling them all about you!"

*Shiela Small*

"Thank you John! Great job! Hope to work with you again. Best!"

*Paige Novick and David Hoffman*

"Thank you for your professionalism and courtesy as we opened Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture. We hope the Westchester community will adopt the center as its own, and your collaboration proves an important step in that direction."

*James Ford, Executive Director*

"We had such a great time at my husbands' 50<sup>th</sup>. You made it very very special. Everything was just perfect, that's all I can say, and we have such fond memories. Thanks so much!"

*Veronica Verklin*

"Just back from our honeymoon in Ecuador after a fantastically magical wedding. The band was absolutely terrific, I wouldn't have changed a thing. Throughout the evening, numerous friends asked 'Where did you find this band? They are spectacular.' We of course gave them your name. Thanks for being a pleasure to work with and for finding us the PERFECT band. I want to do it again already :)"

*Roz Garbose*

"We wanted to thank you and the guys for a wonderful wonderful wedding. Your music and your presence made all of the difference for us... we are truly thankful! Every single guest has commented to us about how extraordinary the music and musicians were...you were instrumental in 'setting the stage' for Nick and I – thank you thank you thank you!!! Everyone was so professional while still giving off the relaxed 'we're just doing our thing' vibe.... we couldn't ask for anything better! I look forward to working with you again soon!"

*Keri and Nick Clavin*

"Patricia and I just wanted to thank you and Jason for helping us with the music for our wedding. The ceremony musicians and Amani were all fantastic, the party rocked, and we had a blast."

*Ross and Patricia Hirsch*

"On behalf of The New York Public Library and our 2006 Young Lions Benefit Co-Chairs, thank you for helping to make this year's benefit, *The Beautiful and Damned*, such a tremendous success. You and your band were an integral part in creating the perfect mood and setting for our benefit. Your musicians were incredibly talented, professional, and courteous. I always know that you will bring the best of the best with you to every event! We are so grateful for all your time, patience, and support you gave to the Library for this benefit. Thank you from everybody at the Library!"

*Keri Ruscito, Coordinator, Special Events*

"Just a quick note to thank you again for everything that you did for us. We had a great time at our wedding, due in no small part to the fantastic music. It was a pleasure working with you and hopefully our paths will cross again."

*Alex McGinley*

#### **2005:**

"The musicians were perfect - just the right touch! My guests even danced which was totally unexpected. Thanks for helping to make my 50th birthday party a big success."

*Bonnie Shyer*

"We were indeed very delighted with the music and are very grateful to you for your recommendations. Everything went so well and we certainly could not find any weaknesses in the trio's performance and professionalism. We shall definitely keep your name in mind in future if we know of someone who may require such service."

*Isabelle and James Stoffel*

"Your talented orchestrations as a musician and businessman were by far the most critical element to our wedding, and you were so kind and supportive in the weeks and months before the wedding. We can never really thank you enough!"

*Tanya and Michael Meloni*

"I just wanted to take a moment to thank you for the advice and work done in pulling together the fabulous groups for the Harvest Fest. I hope we can work together again soon."

*Kate S. Greenberg, Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture*

#### **2004:**

"Just got a thank-you note from Nina and Alex. Not only were they generally thrilled with the wedding, but they were overjoyed with the music. Thanks again and I hope to speak with you soon."

*Farrell Boucher, The Wedding Library*

"Marc and I wanted to make sure you knew how much we appreciate all that you did to make our wedding day so wonderful. The music at the church was superb. Gabriel's oboe sounded magical and truly made my walk down the aisle one of the most memorable moments of my life. 'Bright and festive' are the 2 adjectives that come to mind when I think of the music during the cocktail hour. Your music truly set the mood and tone for the rockin' reception that was to follow."

*Cheeke Flores and Marc Silie*

"The pianist, Jeremy, was great...all the guests said that he was really terrific. I will certainly keep you in mind for any future events that we plan, thanks very much."

*Stacy and Steven Spielman*

"Thank you for all your musical expertise for our wedding! It was magical!"

*Claire Capici and Guillermo Sucre*

**2003:**

"A belated thank you for contracting the pianist for our party. He was absolutely wonderful – perfect in every way. The party was a big success."

*Franny Zorn*

"I don't know how you did it, but you did it. You put together the perfect combination of music for the wedding, satisfying everyone – including the groom, a tough-to-please musician in his own right. Thank you."

*Irene Hamburger — Blue Hill, NYC*

"You guys were beyond wonderful. I can't thank you enough. And my aunt – the toughest critic I know – said you were fantastic. Thanks again."

*Larissa MacFarquhar*

**2002:**

"John Ragusa...completely matched our ideals with reality. Our wedding went off without a hitch, the music was fantastic. How I pulled it all together... In a word: John Ragusa."

*Taly Russell — Managing Editor CITY Magazine*

"I loved the music! I couldn't have been happier. I've been telling everyone that wants to listen about how magical our wedding day was. So thank you. You were such a huge part of making that happen. Thank you, thank you, thank you!"

*Gina Torres*

"We just wanted to tell you how we enjoyed working with you this past weekend on the Rivkin wedding. The Rivkins called us first thing on Monday morning and had nothing but wonderful things to say about the entire evening...even people who normally are not impressed called Mrs. Rivkin raving about all the little details! Our sincerest thank you to your wonderful harp player (and the other musicians) for all they did to make the execution and music so special and just right for the setting and the mood of the evening. We look forward to working with you again and have a great rest of the summer."

*Ann David and Nicky Reinhard – David/Reinhard Events*

"On behalf of Greenwich Academy I want to say thanks for two outstanding performances by The Navigators on November 29. I have received so many enthusiastic comments from students, faculty and parents alike. Not only was the music great but also your commentary and pure ease in relating to the students. I hope we'll hear lots more of you. All the best in 2002!"

*Barbara Steffensen - Greenwich Academy*



"It was great working with you! It was a lovely wedding and people kept calling us about how much fun they had. Groovalaya is a great band. They pulled everyone up to dance (even my Dad who was a little shy at the beginning). They are great musicians without an attitude (a rare combination!) All the best and we'll be in touch!"

*Samantha Catalano and David Wells*

**2001:**

"Just a little note to thank you for pulling together the wonderful musicians that played at our wedding. Groovalaya is a great band – We had a wonderful time! Please let all the musicians know, including the violinist and the cellist how happy we were with our choice and their performance. We hope the new baby is doing great and that you're enjoying being new parents. Thanks again John."

*Amy and Marc Arnel*

"You did a fabulous job. We really had a great time, and everybody enjoyed the music...not only at the ceremony and the cocktail hour, but especially the reception. So thanks again. I definitely hope our paths cross again sometime in the future."

*Robert Wilson*

**2000:**

"Thank you so much for making our wedding reception so enjoyable and fun! I can't tell you how many people complimented you on your performance. It was truly a key element to making the night unforgettable!"

*Will and Emily Moore*

"We have only one regret about our party - that we didn't get to dance more to the awesome band because we were so busy! Thanks for all your help!"

*Nicholas and Karen Dando-Haenisch*

**1999:**

"Thank you for being part of our very special day. The music was beautiful and elegant, and everyone raved about it! We will always cherish our wedding day, but you made it extra special."

*Janet and David Bender*

"Thank you for helping us create the perfect wedding! The musicians played so beautifully, they were so gracious and our guests loved it. Their music made the night truly remarkable. We thank them – and you."

*Kathleen and Joe Miller*

**1998:**

"Our sincerest thanks to you for your beautiful music on our wedding day. You were the perfect compliment to the garden theme we were creating. The Flute, Violin, and Cello combination was exquisite! To hear your beautiful sounds as I waited to walk down the aisle was such a dream come true that it brought me to tears. You were truly excellent - so talented and professional!"

*Amy and Jeremy Noblin*

"Our sincere thanks to you for playing music at our wedding. People are still raving about your music. We appreciated your time and talent, and will refer people to you for sure."

*Lisa and James Miller*

**1997:**

"Thank you again and again for such wonderful music for our wedding. We are glad the band enjoyed it too! Thank you!"

*Mila and Dennis Lopez*

**1996:**

"Your flute playing added dignity and enjoyment to our ceremony. There were so many positive comments from the guests. Thank you for taking the time to rehearse with us to make the music such a highlight of the day."

*Grace Hoffman*

**1995:**

"Thanks so much for a job wonderfully done! The beautiful music during both the ceremony and the cocktail hour truly added a lot to make our most special day just perfect. We have received many compliments on your behalf from our guests and everyone seemed to really enjoy your talent. Thank you so much."

*Debra and Richard Stamm*

**1994:**

"Thanks again for a job very well done! I appreciate in particular all of your extra phone help in guiding me through the music planning. My parents are very pleased to know about you as well. Perhaps we'll meet again at a future party! Thanks again, and all of my best wishes to you for continued success."

*Karen and Michael Charlton*

**1993:**

"Thank you so much for playing here at the library this past Saturday. The music your trio played was just perfect for the occasion and there were many nice comments (I hope you heard some of them!) I am so grateful to know and be able to call upon such wonderful musicians like you and your friends. It makes my job a lot easier. Best wishes for all you do this summer."

*Marge – White Plains Public Library*

**1992:**

"I just wanted you to know how absolutely wonderful the music was at the wedding. You personally, and the others, did such a great job that I just had to tell you. Everyone commented on how lovely the music was, and that made us feel great. Thanks and we hope to see you here and there."

*Maribeth and Dan McCormack*

**1991:**

"Thanks so much for the beautiful job you did at your wedding! Have a happy New Year!"

*Betty and Marc Chen*