

# I rest, no, sing my case

**RANI SINGAM, 33**

**Years in jazz:** Two years or so. Her debut album, titled *With A Song In My Heart*, was released last month.

**Her cachet:** Silky-smooth interpretations of classics like *Moon River* and *Blue Skies*.

**Listens to:** Sarah Vaughn and Carmen Bradford.

**Big break:** In 2002, she cut a demo tape for fun. She did not know her friends played it for jazzman and Cultural Medallion winner Jeremy Monteiro, who thought he was listening to a young Billie Holliday. When he learnt it was Singam, he suggested they record an album together.

It was just as well that the former deputy public prosecutor and state counsel had quit the profession in 2000 after giving birth to her son Logan, now four. She is married to a 35-year-old Singaporean operations director.

**High note:** Recording her album in Los Angeles last June with, among others, the late Elvis Presley's pianist, Ron Feuer.

**Low note:** When she was a law student at the National University of Singapore in the early 1990s, she once auditioned for a gig at Grand Hyatt hotel here.

She recalls: "During the audition, I forgot the lyrics I learnt and took the term



'improvisation' to the strangest level."

**Dream gig:** Singing with Sting and Barbra Streisand.

**If you see her at the bar, buy her:** Tea. "It takes care of my voice."

**Bet you didn't know:** In 1990, she climbed the 2,511m Mount Egmont in New Zealand. Did she feel like breaking out in song at the top? "No, lah, I felt too sick."

**Grooving on:** She'd like to share her singing with the world.

**Jazz to her is:** Fun.

**Diva wit:** "It's a lot less stressful singing in front of judges than presenting cases to them."