



STAR SPACES

She will rock you

Star of stage musical lives low-key in cozy condo

photos: jordanprussky.com

Valerie Stanois is a multi-talented actress who was born and raised in Toronto. Ever since she was a young girl she loved singing and putting on dance routines for her family. She says they encouraged her to express herself and to this day are her biggest fans.

Growing up, Stanois was very athletic. She enjoyed playing volleyball and basketball and was also a competitive soccer player.

But when it came to choosing a career, Stanois chose to be a performer on stage rather than on the soccer pitch. She studied musical theatre at Sheridan College, which helped prepare her for a life in show business.

Stanois appeared in *Cats* at Theatre Aquarius. Other previous credits include *Grease*, *Leader of the Pack* and *Bye, Bye Birdie*. But her current role – as Oz in the rock musical *We Will Rock You* – is a dream come true for her.

Stanois is also a choreographer with the Toronto District School Board. She is especially proud to be teaching dance at her alma

mater, Wexford Collegiate Institute for the Arts.

We Will Rock You, the popular and Dora Award-winning musical based on songs by Queen, is currently on stage at the Panasonic Theatre. Stanois is part of the original cast that debuted at the Canon Theatre. That production received rave reviews for its 61-week engagement.

Theatre lovers can catch the show at its new home until November 2.

Q: How would you describe your home in one word?

A: Warm.

Q: Tell us about your home.

A: I live in a 604-square-foot condo. The building is 18 years old.

Q: What attracted you to this space?

A: The solarium. I love natural light and the fact that the solarium faces south.

Q: What is your favourite room?

A: My bedroom. It's my place of sanctuary and balance. I don't have a TV or stereo in there to pose as distractions. I want good energy

flowing in there, since that is where I recharge my batteries.

Q: How would you describe your decorating style?

A: I wanted a warm, inviting home that has a classic feel to it. I think I have accomplished that.

Q: What is your fondest memory in this home?

A: I had a lot of help from my family when I moved in. Painting, redoing the floors and electrical work...if it wasn't for their help, I'd still be trying to paint the ceiling! Knowing that my home was created with their love and hard work means the world to me.

Q: Who shares the space with you?

A: It's a secret. But I will tell you that there aren't any furry friends yet.

Q: What's the one item in this house you can't live without?

A: My humidifiers. It can get really dry, especially when the heat or air conditioning is going. Being a singer, dryness is my worst enemy.

Q: Weekends at home, what are

we most likely to find you doing?

A: Weekends? What are those? Usually I am rocking out on stage. When I have downtime, I enjoy going to the pool and hot tub or taking a walk on the beautiful grounds of this building. The facilities are fantastic! I also love to entertain.

Q: If your walls could talk, what would they say?

A: Thank god that wolfskin rug is gone!

—Marcy Cornblum,
Special to Sun Media

