

Diahann Carroll

The Life and Times of Diahann Carroll



She moves around the stage, making contact with almost every person in the room. She sings with stunning power and conviction, making you feel lucky to be experiencing a real talent delivering a song in an era when *American Idol* wannabes become stars by screaming into microphones. Diahann Carroll is the real thing, an American Idol who connects to the song, not the mike.

Diahann Carroll is back, she's gorgeous, and she is a helluva a performer. *The Life and Times of Diahann Carroll* came to Feinstein's at the Regency with all the verve and glamour she used to electrify the nightclubs of Las Vegas, New York and Hollywood, and concert venues around the country.

Backed by an eight-piece band, Carroll, a successful theatre/television/film/recording star, emphasizes the music, briefly mentioning her non-singing roles like *Julia* on television and her Oscar-nominee role in *Claudine*. In her rendition of *A Sleeping Bee* from her Broadway debut in *House of Flowers*, she is accompanied on a sweet guitar by Jack Cavari. She followed *House of Flowers* with *No Strings* in 1960, featuring *The Sweetest Sounds*. It was 30 years before her next Broadway musical, *Sunset Boulevard*, when she ignited Norma Desmond's deluded fighting spirit singing *As If We Never Said Goodbye*.

She shows her belting prowess in *Some of These Days* and *Come Rain or Come Shine*. A Frank Sinatra salute includes heartrending *I Guess I'll Hang My Tears Out To Dry* and *One For My Baby*, speaking from an inner passion. The most poignant moments sing of separations, with *Where Do You Start?*, *Knowing When to Leave*, and *I'd Rather Leave While I'm In Love*.

"...Something's lost, but something's gained/ In living ev'ry day" are lines from Carroll's first encore, *Both Sides Now*. This satisfying show exhibits several sides of Diahann Carroll's multi-varied career and life. Hopefully the story will continue in her next show.



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