

Anita O'Day - The Best of (1956-1962)

Written by bluesever

Tuesday, 27 December 2011 19:36 - Last Updated Thursday, 17 July 2014 12:59

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|---------------------------------|---|
| 01. <i>Take The A Train</i> | 02. |
| <i>Early Autumn</i> | 03. <i>Four</i> |
| <i>Brothers</i> | 04. <i>My Funny</i> |
| <i>Valentine</i> | 05. <i>Sing, Sing, Sing</i> |
| | 06. <i>What's You Story, Morning</i> |
| <i>Glory</i> | 07. <i>The Peanut Vendor</i> |
| | 08. <i>Whisper Not</i> |
| | 09. <i>Stompin' At The Savoy</i> |
| | 10. <i>Hershey Bar</i> play |
| | 11. <i>Don't Be That Way</i> |
| 12. <i>Peel Me A Grape</i> | 13. |
| <i>Just One Of Those Things</i> | 14. <i>Love</i> |
| <i>For Sale</i> | 15. <i>Easy To Love</i> |
| play | |
| | 16. <i>I Get A Kick Out Of You</i> |
| | 17. <i>What Is This Thing Called Love</i> |
| | 18. <i>Night And Day</i> |
| | 19. <i>Get Out Of Town</i> |
| | 20. <i>I've Got You Under My Skin</i> |
| | 21. <i>It's De-Lovely</i> |
| 22. <i>Honeysuckle Rose</i> | 23. <i>Star Eyes</i> |

In 1998 the Giants of Jazz label released a collection drawing upon seven different Verve albums by Anita O'Day (1919-2006), a skilled and at times somewhat formidable vocalist who had the kind of chops and temperament usually associated with trumpeters, drummers, and booking agents. Recorded in early December 1955, "Honeysuckle Rose" first appeared on the album *This Is Anita*; technically speaking, this track falls outside of this collection's stated timeframe of 1956-1962. "Stompin' at the Savoy" and "Don't Be That Way" come from *Pick Yourself Up*, an LP that took almost all of 1956 to create. "Star Eyes" as well as tracks one

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through seven were taken from Anita O'Day Sings the Winners, a 1958 release that found her backed by a somewhat slick orchestra under the direction of Russ Garcia. Anita O'Day seems to have spent a lot of time in the recording studios during April 1959; during that month she made a Cole Porter album with Billy May (cuts 13 through 21) and collaborated with Jimmy Giuffre on the Cool Heat album, from which "Hershey Bar" was extracted. During 1962 this stunning woman made an LP with Gene Harris and the Three Sounds (see track eight "Whisper Not") and teamed up with vibraphonist Cal Tjader on the marvelous Time for Two album, the source for her rendition of Dave Frishberg's pleasantly smutty opus, "Peel Me a Grape."

---arwulf arwulf, allmusic.com

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