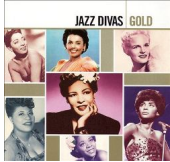


Jazz Divas - Gold (2007)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 25 December 2013 14:19 -

Jazz Divas - Gold (2007)



CD 1 01. Ella Fitzgerald – *A-Tisket, A-Tasket* 02. Helen Humes & Count Basie – *Blame It On My Last Affair* 03. Billie Holiday – *Lover Man* 04. Lena Horne – *Take Love Easy* 05. Billie Holiday – *Good Morning Heartache* 06. Peggy Lee – *Black Coffee* 07. Sarah Vaughan – *Lullaby Of Birdland* 08. Helen Merrill – *Born To Be Blue* 09. Dinah Washington – *Blue Gardenia* 10. Anita O'Day & Gene Krupa – *Let Me Off Uptown* 11. Carmen McRae – *My Funny Valentine* 12. Sarah Vaughan – *Misty* 13. Dinah Washington – *This Bitter Earth* 14. Morgana King – *Body And Soul* 15. Nancy Wilson & Rusty Bryant – *Don't Tell Me* 16. Cleo Laine – *Early Autumn* 17. Ernestine Anderson – *Harlem Nocturne* 18. Etta James – *These Foolish Things*

CD 2

01. Ella Fitzgerald – *Mack The Knife (Live)* 02. Freda Payne – *After The Lights Go Down Low* 03. Astrud Gilberto – *I Will Wait For You* 04. Lorez Alexandria – *Show Me* 05. Nina Simone – *I Loves You Porgy (Live)* 06. Gloria Lynne – *Joey, Joey, Joey* 07. Marlena Shaw – *Go Away Little Boy* 08. Annie Ross – *Twisted* 09. Blossom Dearie – *Surrey With The Fringe On Top* 10. Sheila Jordan – *The Inch Worm* 11. Betty Carter – *My Favorite Things* 12. Nina Simone – *My Baby Just Cares For Me (Live)* 13. Shirley Horn – *Here's To Life* 14. Cassandra Wilson – *Angel* 15. Abbey Lincoln – *I Must Have That Man (Live)* 16. Dee Dee Bridgewater – *Shiny Stockings (Live)* 17. Teri Thornton – *Somewhere In The Night*

There are no less than 20 CD compilations on the market with the words "Jazz Divas" in the title, and another eight that use the phrase "Divas of Jazz." Those two nouns, so carelessly bandied about, describe improvising female vocalists whose works are an extension of a tradition established by Bessie Smith, Adelaide Hall, Ethel Waters, Mildred Bailey, Ivie Anderson, Valaida Snow, Una Mae Carlisle, and Lee Wiley, none of whom appear on Verve's 2007 double-disc anthology titled *Jazz Divas: Gold*. Although a collection this diverse is vulnerable to criticism, particularly in regards to the song choices that were made, the temporal range -- May 1938 through June 1997 -- allows for a healthy overview of stylistic evolution. Thirty singers are represented here, with Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Sarah Vaughan, Dinah Washington, and Nina Simone checking in twice (each of the five has her own volume in Verve's Gold series). This is a mainstream selection; while the omission of Ada Moore, Jeanne

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Lee, and June Tyson is therefore not surprising, the absence of Pearl Bailey, Betty Roché, and Etta Jones is most unfortunate. On the positive side, it's an entertaining survey of mostly great recordings made over a span of six decades by a variegated assortment of female jazz vocalists. --- arwulf arwulf, Rovi

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