Frank Sinatra Sings Gershwin (2003)



- 01) Somebody Loves Me
- 02) I've Got A Crush On You
- 03) Embraceable You
- 04) Someone To Watch Over Me
- 05) Oh Bess, Oh Where's My Bess
- 06) Porgy And Bess Medley
- 07) It Ain't Necessarily So
- 08) 'S Wonderful
- 09) A Foggy Day
- 10) I've Got A Crush On You [alternate take]
- 11) Show Opening
- 12) Soon
- 13) Embraceable You [alternate take]
- 14) Porgy And Bess Medley
- 15) Someone To Watch Over Me [alternate take]
- 16) Love Walked In
- 17) Show Closing

Frank Sinatra - vocals Jeff Alexander - Orchestra Director Barry Olsen - Arranger The Pied Pipers George Siravo - Arranger Dick Stabile - Orchestra Director Axel Stordahl - Orchestra Director and David Broekman, Jane Powell, Dinah Shore

Columbia/Legacy's Sinatra Sings Gershwin collects 17 previously unreleased and ultra-rare recordings and radio performances from early in Sinatra's career. Longtime fans of both Gershwin and Sinatra will want to snatch this remastered bit of archival candy up right away, while others may want to stick to more familiar releases. ---James Christopher Monger, Rovi

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Sings Gershwin compiles Sinatra's studio recording of Gershwin songs for Columbia with fourteen previously unreleased Sinatra radio and TV programs broadcast while he was a Columbia artist, including his famous 1947 Gershwin tribute for CBS radio, Songs by Sinatra.

He's essentially the pop crooner here, dedicating "Embraceable You," for example, "...to little Nancy on her seventh birthday." And his repartee with his female co-lead in "It Ain't Necessarily So" shows him a charming comic. But some Gershwin material allows Sinatra room to explore jazzy effects, too, as in the way the swinging trumpet sings back to his verses in "I've Got a Crush on You."

Sinatra was obviously a big fan of Porgy & Bess, from which he broadcast two different medleys. The first splits "Summertime" in half with quick snatches of "I Got Plenty O' Nuttin" by a supporting vocal group. The second, from the CBS radio tribute, strings together "Summertime," "There's A Boat That's Leaving Soon For New York," "Street Cries," and "Bess You Is My Woman Now," and in every one Sinatra's voice resonates strong and true.

"Someone to Watch Over Me" finds Sinatra still bright-eyed and in love with love; decades later, he would sound more suspicious he might never find her...---Chris M. Slawecki, allaboutjazz.com

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