

Anita O'Day Sings The Winners (1958)

Written by bluesever

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Side 1:

- 01) *Take The A Train* [Ellington]
- 02) *Tenderly* [Oscar Peterson]
- 03) *Night In Tunisia* [Dizzy Gillespie]
- 04) *Four* [Miles Davis]
- 05) *Early Autumn* [Stan Getz]
- 06) *Four Brothers* [Woody Herman]

Side 2:

- 01) *Sing, Sing, Sing* [Gene Krupa]
- 02) *My Funny Valentine* [Gerry Mulligan]
- 03) *Frenesi* [Artie Shaw]
- 04) *Body and Soul* [Coleman Hawkins]
- 05) *What's Your Story Morning Glory* [Jimmie Lunceford]
- 06) *Peanut Vendor* [Stan Kenton]

Personnel: Anita O'Day - vocals Marty Paich - arrangements and orchestra (first half)
Russell Garcia - arrangements and orchestra (second half)

Anita O'Day, whose singing career began in the big band era, was in the prime of her life when she recorded this LP for Verve in 1958. Amazingly, "Winners" was cut in only two days of that year, April 2 & 3, with Russ Garcia and His Orchestra on the first day (tracks 7-12), and the band of Marty Paich on the second (tracks 1-6). This CD has so many great cuts, it could have been called "The Very Best of Anita." "Take the A Train," "Peanut Vendor" and "Frenesi" are especially good. This is, without question, one of the best female vocalist recordings out there. Unfortunately, the six bonus tracks detract from the CD. But, that complaint aside, "Winners" easily rates 5 stars in my book. --- J. BURGESSON (Stratford, CT USA)

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