

The Ultimate Jazz Archive Vol.162 – Frank Sinatra [1944-1949] [2005]



01. *All Of Me* 02. *Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are* 03. *Saturday Night (Is The Loneliest Night In The Week)* 04. *Embraceable You* 05. *Someone To Watch Over Me* 06. *Aren't You Glad You're You* 07. *You Brought A New Kind Of Love To Me* 08. *The Song Is You* 09. *Begin The Beguine* 10. *That Old Black Magic* 11. *Come Rain Or Come Shine* 12. *September Song* 13. *Blue Skies* 14. *There's No Business Like Show Business* 15. *The Brooklyn Bridge* 16. *Sweet Lorraine* 17. *One For My Baby (And One For The Road)* 18. *All Of Me* 19. *Night And Day* 20. *S'Posin'* 21. *I've Got A Crush On You* 22. *Body And Soul* 23. *The Hucklebuck* 24. *It All Depends On You*

Growing up on the gritty streets of Hoboken, New Jersey, made Frank Sinatra determined to work hard to get ahead. Starting out as a saloon singer in musty little dives (he carried his own P.A. system), he eventually got work as a band singer, first with The Hoboken Four, then with Harry James and then Tommy Dorsey. With the help of George Evans (Sinatra's genius press agent), his image was shaped into that of a street thug and punk who was saved by his first wife, Nancy Barbato. In 1942 he started his solo career, instantly finding fame as the king of the bobbysoxers--the young women and girls who were his fans--and becoming the most popular singer of the era among teenage music fans. About that time his film career was also starting in earnest, and after appearances in a few small films, he struck box-office gold with a lead role in *Kotwica w górze* (1945) with Gene Kelly, a Best Picture nominee at the 1946 Academy Awards. Sinatra was awarded a special Oscar for his part in a short film that spoke out against intolerance, *The House I Live In* (1945). His career on a high, Sinatra went from strength to strength on record, stage and screen, peaking in 1949, once again with Gene Kelly, in the MGM musical *Na przepustce* (1949) and *Zabierz mnie na mecz* (1949). A controversial public affair with screen siren Ava Gardner broke up his marriage to Nancy Barbato and did his career little good, and his record sales dwindled. He continued to act, although in lesser films such as *Meet Danny Wilson* (1951), and a vocal cord hemorrhage all but ended his career. He fought back, though, finally securing a role he desperately wanted--Maggio in *Stad do wiecznosci* (1953). He won an Oscar for best supporting actor and followed this with a scintillating performance as a cold-blooded assassin hired to kill the US President in *Nagle* (1954). Arguably a career-best performance--garnering him an Academy Award nomination for Best Actor--was his role as a

pathetic heroin addict in the powerful drama Zlotoreki (1955).

Known as "One-Take Charlie" for his approach to acting that strove for spontaneity and energy, rather than perfection, Sinatra was an instinctive actor who was best at playing parts that mirrored his own personality. He continued to give strong and memorable performances in such films as Faceci i laleczki (1955), Komik (1957) and Dlugi tydzien w Parkman (1958). In the late 1950s and 1960s Sinatra became somewhat prolific as a producer, turning out such films as A Hole in the Head (1959), Sergeants 3 (1962) and the very successful Robin and the 7 Hoods (1964). Lighter roles alongside "Rat Pack" buddies Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr. were lucrative, especially the famed Ocean's Eleven (1960). On the other hand, he alternated such projects with much more serious offerings, such as Przezylysmi wojne (1962), regarded by many critics as Sinatra's finest picture. He made his directorial debut with the World War II picture None But the Brave (1965), which was the first Japanese/American co-production. That same year Ekspres Von Ryana (1965) was a box office sensation. In 1967 Sinatra returned to familiar territory in Sidney J. Furie's The Naked Runner (1967), once again playing as assassin in his only film to be shot in the U.K. and Germany. That same year he starred as a private investigator in Tony Rome (1967), a role he reprised in the sequel, Lady in Cement (1968). He also starred with Lee Remick in Detektyw (1968), a film daring for its time with its theme of murders involving rich and powerful homosexual men, and it was a major box-office success.

After appearing in the poorly received comic western Paskudny Dingus Magee (1970), Sinatra didn't act again for seven years, returning with a made-for-TV cops-and-mob-guys thriller Contract on Cherry Street (1977), which he also produced. Based on the novel by William Rosenberg, this fable of fed-up cops turning vigilante against the mob boasted a stellar cast and was a ratings success. Sinatra returned to the big screen in The First Deadly Sin (1980), once again playing a New York detective, in a moving and understated performance that was a fitting coda to his career as a leading man. He made one more appearance on the big screen with a cameo in Wycig armatniej kuli II (1984) and a final acting performance in Magnum (1980) in 1987 as a retired detective seeking vengeance on the killers of his granddaughter in an episode entitled "Laura". --- imdb.com

Frank Sinatra to jeden z najwspanialszych wokalistów ubiegłego wieku, obdarzony magicznym głosem. Zasłynął dzięki takim przebojom jak "Strangers In The Night", "Can't Take My Eyes Of You", "New York, New York", "I've Got You Under My Skin" czy "My Way", które dziś zaliczają się do klasyki.

Urodził się w 1915 roku w New Jersey jako syn strażaka. Nagrania Binga Crosby'ego usłyszane w radiu zrobiły na nim takie wrażenie, że sam postanowił zostać piosenkarzem. Początki jednak nie były łatwe - Sinatra zaczął od śpiewania w małych klubach. Mając 20 lat dołączył do grupy wokalne The Hoboken Four. Szansa na coś więcej pojawiła się dopiero, gdy usłyszał go trębacz Henry James. Później piosenkarz nawiązał współpracę z zespołem, którego liderem był Tommy Dorsey. Pierwsze solowe nagrania Sinatry to rok 1939, zaś największe szlagiery z tamtego okresu nagrane zostały właśnie we współpracy z Dorseyem. Wraz z jego orkiestrą Frank Sinatra pojawił się także w dwóch produkcjach filmowych - "Las Vegas Night" i "Ship Ahoy".

Kolejne lata w życiu piosenkarza to okres intensywnej pracy twórczej - po opuszczeniu zespołu Dorseya Sinatra maksymalnie poświęca się karierze solowej. Ogromną popularność zdobył występując wraz z Bennym Goodmanem w Paramount Theatre w Nowym Jorku, stał się wtedy idolem nastoletniej publiczności. Lata 50. nie były dla artysty zbyt dobre, aczkolwiek w 1953 pojawił się na srebrnym ekranie w superprodukcji "Stąd do wieczności". Rola w filmie pomogła Frankowi ponownie zdobyć serca publiczności. Dodatkowo artysta udzielał się w radiu i telewizji - do 1952 nadawany był "The Frank Sinatra Show" oraz audycja radiowa, gdzie proponował słuchaczom ulubione piosenki. W marcu tego samego roku wystąpił w teatrze (spektakl "Met Danny Wilson"), co pozwoliło artyście nie tylko na zaprezentowanie swoich aktorskich umiejętności, ale także na nagranie takich utworów jak: "That Old Black Magic", "I've Got A Crush On You" i "How Deep Is The Ocean".

W swojej karierze Sinatra nagrał ponad 40 płyt i zagrał w ponad 15 filmach. Jednym z najlepiej sprzedających się albumów był "Sinatra At The Sands", zaś wśród singli królował wspomniany już szlagier "Strangers In The Night." Artysta już za życia owiany był legendą - plotkowano o jego kontaktach z mafią (których nigdy mu nie udowodniono), romansach (w tym z Avą Gardner, jedną z najpiękniejszych aktorek tamtych czasów) oraz problemach osobistych - podobno nie rozstawał się z garścią 10-centowych monet od czasu, gdy porwano mu syna - Franka Jr., i porywacze domagali się rozmów z budek telefonicznych. Karierę zakończył w 1995 mając 80 lat. Dwa lata później zmarł na atak serca. W pamięci słuchaczy pozostał na zawsze dzięki magii swego niepowtarzalnego głosu. --- rmf.fm

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Written by bluesever

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