

Megan Hilty - Live At The Café Carlyle (2016)

Written by bluesever

Sunday, 30 September 2018 11:41 -

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1 *They Just Keep Moving The Line* 3:09 2 *Bye Bye Baby* 2:49 3 *The Best Is Yet To Come* 2:44 4 *Someone To Watch Over Me* 3:53 5 *Autumn Leaves / When October Goes* 6:17 6 *That's Life* 3:16 7 *Second Hand White Baby Grand* 4:31 8 *The Man That Got Away* 3:46 9 *Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend* 5:28 10 *Get Happy* 3:23 11 *Rainbow Connection* 3:19
Megan Hilty - vocals Brian Gallagher - guitar Matt Cusson - piano Jack Deboe - percussion Dennis Keefe - bass

The star of television's *Smash* (as Ivy Lynn) is a delight to watch and listen to returning to the Café Carlyle for the fourth time. The opening "Gotta Have Me Go With You" (Judy Garland, Ray Heindorf, Jack Harmon, Don McKabe), with everyone singing, swinging and harmonizing, was like a throwback to the 40s sound of The Modernaires!

Regaling her audience with the ups and downs of making her way into the business, showed the strength and fortitude it takes, even for this Carnegie Mellon grad who thought she was going to be an opera singer. It was actually Craig Burns, casting director (in the audience) who helped launch Megan. And so the evening followed her career path and the songs that resonate for her. She did wind up in *Wicked* both on Broadway and on tour – 4 years total. Her rendition of "Popular" (in cutsey – mouse-like vocals) was nothing less than fabulous. She also starred in *9 to 5* and only had nice things to report on Dolly Parton.

Megan paid homage to *Smash* (Marc Shaiman, Scott Wittman) with "They Just Keep Moving the Line," "Don't Forget Me/Let Me Be Your Star," "Let's Be Bad" – to grand audience reaction. Her real penchant, however, is for the music of *Sweeney Todd*, the powerfully emotional medley including "Not While I'm Around" and "Johanna." She excitedly shared her one time meeting with Stephen Sondheim gushing her love for *Into the Woods* and *Sweeney Todd* to which he replied: "you must be obsessed with death."

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If anyone in the packed house didn't actually believe the range of her voice and its operatic beauty, Hilty easily quashed that by singing "I Could Have Danced All Night"(Lerner & Loewe) and hitting a high C final note. Knocked it out of the ballpark!

Megan Hilty is blessed with a gorgeous flowing vocal instrument that takes her audiences on a journey with every song she sings. That sweet little purr is very endearing as is her off-the-cuff chatter/patter and great charm. ---Sandi Durell, theaterpizzazz.com

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