



## **SLOANE: A JAZZ SINGER**

*The documentary about Carol Sloane*

***“‘SLOANE’ is a superior musical tour de force and virtual shot in the arm, documenting not only Carol’s career through her emotional story, but also brilliantly encapsulating a history of popular music through changing times and passing fancies. Blessedly, thanks to this important film, Carol Sloane is here to stay.” Michael Feinstein***

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“I was first introduced to the artistry of Carol Sloane 30 years ago by my dear friend Sir Richard Rodney Bennett. I will never forget the first time I heard her sing. My entire being was lifted. I felt that I was spiraling upward and taken on a transcendent journey. The beauty of her voice, the rhythmic and melodic invention, and the passion she sang with were unlike anything I’d ever heard.... SLOANE: A JAZZ SINGER is a touching portrait of this great artist, an honest picture of the dedication, struggles and triumphs of this singular person. It tells a story with many layers - sometimes painful, sometimes jubilant - but in the end, always life affirming.

Jazz pianist Bill Charlap

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“Carol Sloane is one of America’s finest jazz singers. Her immense talent through personal song-interpretation is second to absolutely none. SLOANE: A JAZZ SINGER is an important story, beautifully documented. It is a very real and intimate look into the life of a great artist, and reveals Carol Sloane’s deeply creative process as well as the beautiful and open-hearted relationship she had with her audiences throughout her career. You will be touched and inspired.”

Recording artist Catherine Russell

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Director Michael Lippert's homage to the great 'unknown' jazz legend, Carol Sloane, doesn't just introduce you to someone you may not have known, it makes you fall in love with her. And jazz. It makes you wonder why you don't know her name and forces you to consider the possibility that out there, in the shopping mall parking lot or at your pharmacy, other greats walk unknown."

Classic Couple Academy.com - Filmmaker 5

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"The film is a proper couplet to the renowned 20 Feet from Stardom, a profile of the great backup singers of rock 'n' roll. Like those regal vocalists, Sloane, a true star, deserves the spotlight once and for all. This film needs to be seen by everyone who loves music - and those who understand the challenges of growing up and growing old."

Jazz writer Joe Vanderford

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"Few profile documentaries capture the kind of honesty and intelligence of a person's very being as this one, and it does it well. Incredibly well, even. To leave this world by singing on your way out... that's beautiful."

Bill Arceneaux, Movie Going with Bill

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"In a documentary of her life, singer Carol Sloane receives her overdue applause."

Bill Beuttler, The Boston Globe

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"Her name is uttered in the same breath as Sarah Vaughan, Billie Holliday, Carmen McRae and Ella Fitzgerald. Carol Sloane is THE JAZZ SINGER most people have never heard of... Utterly fascinating and incredibly candid, SLOANE: A JAZZ SINGER is the jazz film even people who don't like jazz will love. Watch this while you can."

DocEdge, New Zealand

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"Sloane, A Jazz Singer resembles Bertrand Tavernier's Round Midnight – without the bathos – in its focus on the final act of a single artist nearing the end of the road. A labor of love by director Michael Lippert."

Ted Panken, Downbeat

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"A must-see... Lippert fashions a glowing tribute to the singer who defied racial odds to become the only white woman who could stand head and shoulders with Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald ("You sound just like me", the legend opined), Sarah Vaughan and Carmen McRae (after an initial awkward encounter the pair became fast friends) ... The film culminates with the 82-year-old recording a live album at New York City's famed Birdland, September 2019. Unforgettable is the closing number—in many ways Sloane's signature song— "I'll Always Leave the Door a Little Open." Its last line sums up the feelings of the artist and her adoring fans: It's good to be alive."

James R. Wegg, JWR

“Michael Lippert’s latest documentary, screening as part of Palm Springs 2024, opens with a quote from The Washington Post’s Matt Schudel: “If Carol Sloane isn’t America’s greatest living jazz singer, then no one deserves the title.” It’s a bold claim, but what follows does an impressive job of backing it up.... Carol may be humorous and slightly mischievous offstage - she has an irreverent approach to life which befits a woman who took her name from a furniture store - but in song, she is completely focused, and thanks in part to Lippert’s film, her songs will be heard for many years to come.”  
Jennie Kermode, Eye for Film

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“Unflinching honesty... uncovers a tough yet tender woman who is impossible not to love.... An Invaluable gift.”  
Ori Dagan, New York City Jazz Record

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“A magnificent tribute.”  
Thomas Cunniffe, Jazz History Online

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“This is a wonderful film, a loving portrait to a great singer who deserved to be in the hearts and ears of more than the jazz musicians and aficionados who put her on a pedestal because they knew how good she was. It is a portrait of a great lady who doesn’t command our attention but earns it because she is just a joy to be around. This film absolutely delighted me. Films like this is why I keep doing Unseen Films.”  
Steve Koplan, Unseen Films

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“Twelve Films to See at Cinequest... Sloane’s reflections and affable presence make this documentary sparkle and shine like a diamond, so much in fact that it makes the film’s final moments all that more poignant and moving.”  
Randy Myers, San Jose Mercury News

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“Always engaging...She sings the song as if the world is listening... Many emotions are stirred by this excellent recounting of the life and career of an outstanding jazz singer, the most dominant and lasting of which is the air of joyousness Carol Sloane created throughout her life.”  
Bruce Crowther, (UK) Jazz Journal

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“Often poignant, but the takeaway should be an appreciation for Sloane’s resiliency and artistry. She was able to keep coming back because the music meant something to her and her listeners. It is a sensitive film, very highly recommended.”  
Joe Bendel, JB Spins

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“The new biographical movie, *Sloane: A Jazz Singer*, draws attention to the challenges that struggling musicians must work to overcome as they strive to achieve success in their chosen discipline... the quintessential biographical musical documentary that intimately chronicles the harrowing yet hopeful story of the titular performer’s faithful adherence to her craft, even as she faced continuous adversities throughout her career...Visually and emotionally dazzling.”  
Karen Benardello, Cinema Daily US

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“She imparts her triumphs and her failures with the same passion. She’s giving us the story, her story, and when things get heavy and darker, she doesn’t shy away, she goes into it, through it. She demonstrates that she is a human who understands the path of time, and what every decision means, and what it meant... A wonderful documentary, and director Michael Lippert has choreographed a film that is the story of a life and its intersections. This documentary serves as a stronger, more-lasting memorial than any tombstone ever could.”

Christopher Garcia, Klaus at Gunpoint Film Journal

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