

## BORDER CROSSINGS: THE GREAT MIGRATION AND WOMEN IN JAZZ



Sarah Vaughan

**Birth name** Sarah Lois Vaughan

- Also known as “Sassy”, “The Divine One”, “Sailor”
  - Influenced by Ella Fitzgerald
  - Genres – Swing, Big Band and Bebop
  - Instrument - Vocalist
  - Associated acts – Billy Eckstine, Earl “Fatha” Hines, Dizzy Gillespie, Pope John Paul II
- 1924
- Born, March 27 – Newark, New Jersey, U.S.
- 1942
- Won amateur night performance at Harlem's Zeus Theater
- 1943
- Contacted by the Apollo in the spring to open for Ella Fitzgerald
  - Toured with the Earl Hines big band that also featured baritone Billy Eckstine
- 1944
- Joined Billy Eckstine’s big band, first recording December 5
- 1945
- Begins solo career, first hit record “Tenderly”
- 1948
- Signed with Columbia Records
- 1953
- Signed with EmArcy
- 1955
- She received top billing with the Dave Brubeck Quartet during the New York Jazz Festival on Randall’s Island

1959

- Best Performance by a Top 40 Artist – Nominee - Grammy Awards - Broken-Hearted Melody

1960

- Vaughan began recording for Roulette in April, making a string of strong large ensemble albums arranged and/or conducted by Billy May, Jimmy Jones, Joe Reisman, Quincy Jones, Benny Carter, Lalo Schiffrin, and Gerald Wilson. Surprisingly, she also had some pop chart success in 1960 with "Serenata" on Roulette and a couple of residual tracks from her Mercury contract, "Eternally" and "You're My Baby". She also made a pair of intimate vocal/guitar/double bass albums of jazz standards: *After Hours* (1961) with guitarist Mundell Lowe and double bassist George Duvivier and *Sarah + 2* (1962) with guitarist Barney Kessell and double bassist Joe Comfort.

1961

- Adopted daughter, Debra Lois

1964

- First appearance at the White House, for President Johnson

1974

- Performed a private concert for the United States president, Gerald Ford, and French president, Giscard d'Estaing, during their summit on Martinique

Michael Tilson Thomas asked Vaughan to participate in an all-Gershwin show he was planning for a guest appearance with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl. The arrangements were by Marty Paich and the orchestra would be augmented by established jazz artists Dave Grusin on piano, Ray Brown on double bass, drummer Shelly Manne and saxophonists Bill Perkins and Pete Christlieb. The concert was a success and Thomas and Vaughan repeated the performance with Thomas' home orchestra in Buffalo, New York, followed by appearances in 1975 and 1976 with symphony orchestras around the country. These performances fulfilled a long-held interest by Vaughan in working with symphonies and she made orchestra performances without Thomas for the remainder of the decade

1976

- Best Jazz Vocal Performance – Nominee Grammy Awards – Sarah Vaughan - More Sarah Vaughan Live in Japan

1977

- Tom Guy, a young filmmaker and public TV producer, followed Vaughan around on tour, interviewing numerous artists speaking about her and capturing both concert and behind-the-scenes footage. The resulting sixteen hours of footage was pared down into an hour-and-a-half documentary, *Listen to the Sun*, that aired on September 21, 1978, on New Jersey Public Television, but was never commercially released

Norman Granz, who was also Ella Fitzgerald's manager, signed Vaughan to his Pablo Records label

1981

- Won an Emmy Award for Outstanding Individual Achievement – Special Class

1978

- Best Jazz Vocal Performance – Nominee Grammy Awards – Sarah Vaughan - How Long Has This Been Going On

1979

- Best Jazz Vocal Performance – Nominee Grammy Awards – Sarah Vaughan - I Love Brazil

1980

- Best Jazz Vocal Performance - Female -- Nominee Grammy Awards – Sarah Vaughan – Sarah Vaughan: Duke Ellington Song Book One

- 1982
- Best Jazz Vocal Performance - Female – Winner Grammy Awards – Sarah Vaughan – Gershwin Live!
- 1983
- Best Jazz Vocal Performance - Female – Nominee Grammy Awards – Sarah Vaughan – Crazy and Mixed Up
- 1985
- Best Jazz Vocal Performance - Duo or Group – Nominee Grammy Awards – Barry Manilow, Sarah Vaughan – Blue
- 1985
- Best Historical Album – Nominee Grammy Awards – American Popular Song (Fred Astaire, Lena Horne, Nat King Cole, Sarah Vaughan, others)
- 1986
- Outstanding Individual Performance - Variety or Music Program – Nominee Emmy Awards – Sarah Vaughan - The 28th Annual Grammy Awards
- 1987
- Best Jazz Vocal Performance - Female – Nominee Grammy Awards - Sarah Vaughan – Brazilian Romance
- 1989
- Lifetime Achievement Awards - Winner Grammy Awards Sarah Vaughan
  - NEA Jazz Masters Award – Winner
- 1990
- Died, April 3
- 1998
- Hall of Fame - Winner Grammy Awards Sarah Vaughan - Sarah Vaughan (1955)

Track #	Song Title	CD Title	Year	Element
1	Lullaby of Birdland	*	1954	Homage to Bebop
2	He's My Guy	*	1954	Playful Love Song
3	April in Paris	*	1954	Swing
4	Embraceable You	*	1954	Sultry Love Song
5	How High The Moon	**	1957	Emulation/Dedication
6	The History of Man	***	1984	Religious, Philosophical content

\*Sarah Vaughan w/Clifford Brown

\*\*Live @ Mr. Kelly's

\*\*\*Gene Lee/The Planet is Alive Let It Live