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Jeanie Bryson – Live At Warsaw Jazz Festival



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It takes guts for any artist to go on stage and give an entire concert, no matter how talented or used to doing so it may be. I thought of this as Jeanie Bryson went on stage in her 1991 **Warsaw Jazz Festival** performance. Singing standards like *Body & Soul*, *I've Got A Crush On You* and *Our Love Is Here To Stay*, she is comfortable enough. However, that does not mean the concert came together quite as it should have.

I found it fascinating to watch the lady handle herself through the 9 song set (with three more bonus elsewhere on the DVD) giving it her classy best. However, there is something straight jacketed here like Aretha Franklin at Columbia in the 1950s, something that just never takes off. She has a fine voice, and know I am not making any comparison to Miss Franklin one way or the other. It is just that sometimes, things to do work out as planned, no matter what we do and this was one of those nights. It would be nice to compare to another concert though.

The 1.33 X 1 image was shot on weak analog video and has detail and even color consistency issues. This is also softer than one would like. Even when she is good, the performance gets in the way. The Dolby Digital 5.1 mix is weak and the 2.0 Dolby worse. The combination is difficult to enjoy. Extras include three bonus tracks with the same exact playback quality. Her performance of *Over The Rainbow* is, as we usually would say in just about all cases, unnecessary.

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- Nicholas Sheffo

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