

# RIFFTIDES

Doug Ramsey on jazz and other matters...

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June 12, 2006

## DVD

*Volume 1, The Jazz Voice*, (EforFilms). A compilation of film clips of five female singers, this DVD is of uneven video and audio quality largely because the source material is soundies, shorts and early television. Some of it is familiar, but other clips offer rare opportunities to see and hear Billie Holiday, Nina Simone, Ethel Waters, Anita O'Day and Dinah Washington. The documentary and educational value is considerable, but musical quality is what recommends this set. Never one of her devotees, I was surprised to find myself charmed by the young Nina Simone. I have not yet seen the second volume; Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, Carmen McRae, June Christy, Peggy Lee, Lena Horne and Helen Humes are waiting.

Posted by dramsey at June 12, 2006 01:03 AM

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## ABOUT . . .

### ...Rifftides

This blog is founded on conviction that music listeners who embrace understand jazz have that run deep, wide and jazz. Music is its principle but it reaches past...

### ...Doug Ramsey

Doug lives in the Pacific Northwest, where he is following a career in broadcast journalism including New York, New San Francisco, Los Angeles Seattle, Portland, San Cleveland and Washington. His writing about jazz paralleled his life in jazz [more](#)

### ...Doug's Books

Doug's most recent book is *Five: The Public and Private of Paul Desmond*. He is author of *Jazz Matters: on the Music and Song Makers*. He contributes to *Oxford Companion to Music* edited *Journalism Ethics Change?* His next book that has almost nothing to do with music.

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