



"Billie Holiday: The Life and Artistry of Lady Day"

The troubled life of the jazz singer is pieced together in this choppy 28-minute biodoc. Though too brief, this European production does offer rare footage of Holiday in concert. It tells the familiar story of her difficult childhood, rapid rise to fame and slow decline. DVD extras include scenes from the 1947 film "New Orleans," in which she plays a maid who can't resist singing. She also performs with Louis Armstrong and his band in a swinging nightclub. A clip of her singing the bold song "Strange Fruit" is chilling. Unrated. Total time is 55 minutes. From MVD Entertainment Group.

- Chris Ball