

## “Lady Day at Emerson’s Bar & Grill”

starring jazz vocalist

*Paulette Dozier*

# ADD THIS SHOW TO YOUR PRODUCTION SEASON

A GREAT SHOW FOR A MODEST BUDGET

Carbonell Award-nominated actress and acclaimed jazz artist Paulette Dozier stars as **Billie Holiday** in *Lady Day at Emerson’s Bar and Grill*, playwright Lanie Robertson’s portrait of the legendary jazz singer in performance four months before her death.

In *Lady Day*, the iconic jazz singer reflects on her life, loves, tragedies, and triumphs in a powerful monologue interspersed with music from her timeless songbook. Holiday’s saga will resonate strongly with modern day audiences – recent events, including the heartbreakingly wasted careers of such talents as Michael Jackson, Whitney Houston, and Amy Winehouse, echo Holiday’s sadly familiar story of troubles with narcotics, financial exploitation, and in Holiday’s case, sexual abuse.

As Holiday often sang in one of her favorite pieces: "I'm going to do just as I want to anyway / And don't care just what people say / Ain't nobody's business if I do." It's the message of an independent woman, which Holiday proudly stood as until the very end. This intense and emotional live reimagining of one of Holiday's final performances will thrill and enthrall all audiences - those who remember her, and those who are discovering her for the first time.

### Critical Praise for *Lady Day at Emerson’s Bar and Grill*:

“Built around a superb performance by Paulette Dozier, [this production] intersperses more than a dozen Holiday classics with the jazz chanteuse telling long stories about her tragic spiral. Dozier tackles many of Holiday’s best tunes as well as a touching, personal monologue throughout, in which the audience witnesses a truly multi-layered character with a self-assured presence and an increasingly unstable foundation.



**Paulette Dozier’s Superb As Billie Holiday.”**  
- *Florida On Stage*

Lanie Robertson’s script posits an appearance at a small Philadelphia club about four months before [Billie Holiday’s] death in 1959. As the evening wears on, Holiday tells her audience horror stories about her substance abuse, unfaithful lovers, childhood rape, prison term and encounters with vicious racism. Dozier ... artfully and smoothly chart Holiday’s gradual descent, especially using body language. ...[where the audience eventually sees an] increasingly wobbly figure who stumbles like a sleepwalker in a drug-induced haze.

...But obviously, the requisite skill is in delivering Holiday’s repertoire. Dozier is more than a match for these two-minute slices of musical nirvana. ... While Holiday herself mocks her audiences’ expectation that she will sing her most famous songs, ‘God Bless the Child’ and ‘Strange Fruit,’ Dozier/Holiday doesn’t stint on investing consummate technique and profound emotion in her deeply affecting versions.” - (*FLORIDATHEATREONSTAGE.COM / Bill Hirschman*)

“Listening to [Paulette] work her way through [Billie’s music]... is an exquisite experience. ...For Holiday, brilliance and ruin went hand-in-hand. That juxtaposition is always on display in Dozier’s performance.” - (*MIAMI HERALD / Christine Dolen*)

An evening with *Lady Day at Emerson’s Bar and Grill* will serve as an up-close reminder to the real-life effects of the life in the spotlight, lived by one of the most ageless performers in music. Billie Holiday met her fate with a unique resilience as uncommon then as it is now.



### WHAT FANS HAVE TO SAY:

*Just saw you in Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill. Loved it!*  
Eileen

*...the friends I brought ... couldn't stop thanking me for bringing them.  
It was a masterful performance, not to mention the vocals, which were astonishing. ...Damn you are so good.*  
Sheldon

*Just a note to say you are WONDERFUL - I saw Lady Day last night and your utterly superb voice- timing - thrilled me.  
Coupled with the underlying pathos of her life- I was so moved. Thank you for such a gift you gave me.*  
Maxine

*You can play one drunk, aging, complicated woman and do you have the pipes!!! ...You made me laugh and cry and I thoroughly enjoyed it.*  
Gayle

## BOOK THIS SHOW

If you are looking to **produce a great show on a limited budget**, then ***Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*** starring Carbonell Award-nominated actress and acclaimed jazz vocalist Paulette Dozier will be an excellent addition to your theater season; an ideal production in celebration of Black History Month; or a perfect 'one night only' special event. There are no extensive rehearsal costs or salaries for a large cast. This is a one-woman show with a trio or simply Lady Day and her pianist – THAT'S IT. Minimal staging and rehearsal required.

As the producer, you will make the decisions and control the business aspect of the production, using your organization of professionals and equipment to "get this show on the road" so to speak.

*\* Quotes drafted with DOMENICI Enterprises as the show's producer, will incur higher expenses due road staff and logistics.*

### BASIC EXPENSES AND REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE

- Royalties: *Subject to number of performances as per Samuel French*
- Scripts: *For stage hands if needed*
- Music scores: *piano and bass*
- Stage Manager:
- Asst. Stage Manager: *to be decided*
- Director: *New direction is not required - whatever minimal staging is needed can be provided by the star artist based on past performances.*
- Publicity: *As per PR agent*
- Programs: *Art & Printing Costs*
- Postcards: *Art & Printing Costs*
- Set (If required): *Piano w/ piano bench, Bar, Bar Stool, Bar props (glasses, bottles, etc.)*
- Set Delivery (If required): *Cost depends on travel distance*
- Music Trio: *Pianist, Bass and Drums*
- Costume: *Billie's dress, shoes, gardenia, accessories, drinking glass, and microphone*  
*NO CHARGE – the artist will supply these materials.*
- Facility with Adequate Seating
- Lighting Equipment
- Lighting Tech
- Sound Equipment
- Sound Tech
- Box Office Attendant
- House Manager and front of house staff
- Piano w/ piano bench
- Housing: *If the facility is more than 40 miles from Miami, FL (the artist's home base)*
- Transportation: *If the facility is more than 40 miles from Miami, FL (the artist's home base)*

*Finalities will be outlined at the time of contract discussion.*

To book this production starring jazz artist Paulette Dozier

#### CONTACT

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