

“This past March, vocalist Clairdee debuted her latest recording ‘A Love Letter to Lena’... sharing her personal tribute and inspiration from the late great Lena Horne.” —Frosene Phillips

MUSICAL NOTES. This past March, vocalist **Clairdee** debuted her latest recording “**A Love Letter to Lena**” at Berkeley’s intimate **Freight & Salvage** in a live-stream concert, sharing her personal tribute and inspiration from the late great **Lena Horne**. As reported by Andrew Gilbert in the Bay Area News Group at the time, Horne meant a great deal to Clairdee “in so many different ways.”



Clairdee’s summation bears repeating: “The example she set, the role model that she was for so many African-Americans was so powerful. I learned so much about what I do and how I present myself on stage from her. She was always impeccably, completely professional, despite all the discrimination and mistreatment. As my mother used to say, the best revenge is to never let them see you sweat.”

The album was received with great acclaim in jazz circles and All About Jazz said it “isn’t merely a tribute to an artist from our past. It’s a statement about giving voice to what’s desperately needed in the present.”

Last week, Clairdee premiered the official video of **Stand Up**, from “A Love Letter to Lena” with **Tony Lindsay, Janice Maxie-Reid, and Kenny Washington**. Stand Up was written by **Marcus**

McLaurine and Keva Youngblood and is a musical call-to-action led by Clairdee and co-producer, arranger, pianist **Jon Herbst**. “A diverse and talented group of San Francisco Bay Area musicians brought their voices and instruments to share our message of hope, encouragement, and action,” states Clairdee’s voice at clairdee.com/stand-up. The site also features a variety of ways supporters can get involved. To watch the video, visit bit.ly/Clairdee-StandUp.

Clairdee has more plans on the horizon for her celebration of Lena. Visit clairdee.com for ongoing details and to purchase “A Love Letter to Lena.”