



For more than forty years of the 20th Century, Frank Sinatra was the world's best-known entertainer. Even today, years after his death, Sinatra's music is revered worldwide, and Sinatra recordings continue to sell in the millions. What is remarkable is that today's Sinatra fans encompass all age groups, from teenagers all the way up to ninety-year olds.

Sinatra was complicated, smart, moody, gregarious and sporadically introspective, qualities that combined to make a great artist. He oozed talent, and it wasn't confined to only music. In addition to singing and acting, Sinatra expressed a remarkable art talent with his paintings, drawings and lithographs. Most of us are unaware that Frank Sinatra was a passionate painter and a serious student of contemporary art, simply because for the most part, he kept this aspect of his private life out of the public eye. Every moment he could spare, Sinatra would retreat to the solitude of his studio where he could express his inner self with paintbrush, paper and canvas. And, as was the case with almost whatever this man attempted, Sinatra was good.

When we view Sinatra's art images, we feel the strong harmony to his music. The abstract structural format, frequently geometric, speaks of his carefully constructed musical arrangements, and the dashes of colors – red and orange were his favorites.

For years, Sinatra would show his paintings and drawings to only his immediate family and a few very close friends. Then in 1991, in conjunction with many events celebrating his seventy-fifth year, a book on his art was published, *A Man and His Art – Frank Sinatra* (Random House, 1991). Sinatra's daughter, Tina, wrote an insightful introduction to the book, which let the reader share Sinatra's intimate and private world. With their brilliant colors and captivating shapes, Frank Sinatra's artworks are fascinating in and of themselves – as well as for what they reveal about the innermost life of this most enigmatic, hugely popular performer.

To quote from Tina Sinatra's poignant introduction to her father's art book: "People like my father are always looking for ways to express their creative force. They find windows in their own souls through which they can shed their light. I don't think anybody can have as much talent as my father and not have several forms of expression. That kind of talent is like a constant flame."