

= Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga : Cheek to Cheek Live ! =

Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga : Cheek to Cheek Live ! is an American concert television special featuring live performances by Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga in support of their collaborative studio album , Cheek to Cheek , released in September 2014 . It was held at the Rose Theater of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in July following the announcement of the album 's release , and was aired on PBS on October 24 , 2014 , as part of the network 's Great Performances series . The concert was watched by an audience consisting of invited guests and students from New York schools . Bennett and Gaga were joined on stage by 39 @-@ piece orchestra and jazz musicians associated with both artists . A number of costumes were worn by Gaga , provided by designers including Roberto Cavalli , Michael Costello , Mathieu Mirano , Valentino as well as David Samuel Menkes . The special received one nomination at the 67th Primetime Emmy Awards .

Bennett and Gaga performed a total of 13 songs from the album , including the number one singles on Billboard 's Jazz chart " Anything Goes " and " I Can 't Give You Anything but Love " . Before the concert was aired , a number of promotional videos from the show were released . Additionally , PBS announced that the concert was filmed in 4K resolution . On January 20 , 2015 , the DVD and Blu @-@ ray was released , and later for digital download on iTunes Store . It reached the top @-@ ten of the record charts in many countries , reaching number one in the US and Belgium . Bennett and Gaga partnered with LG Electronic , who aired the concert across all retail chains in the United States , on LG 's 4K Ultra High @-@ definition TV screens . Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga : Cheek to Cheek Live ! became the first concert to be streamed in 4K resolution . The show received positive reviews , with critics praising Gaga and Bennett 's vocals and their camaraderie on stage .

= = Development = =

Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga first met backstage in 2011 after she had performed a rendition of Nat King Cole 's " Orange Colored Sky " , at the Robin Hood Foundation gala in New York City . Bennett then asked Gaga to sing a duet with him on his album Duets II . The two recorded " The Lady Is a Tramp " for Duets II , and subsequently rumors arose of a jazz album from them . On July 29 , 2014 , Gaga and Bennett made an appearance on The Today Show to formally announce their collaboration , titled Cheek to Cheek , and confirmed their album would be released in September 2014 . Following the announcement of the release , a short concert was held at the Rose Theater of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts . Titled Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga : Cheek to Cheek Live ! , the concert aired on PBS as part of their Great Performances series on October 24 , 2014 . It was watched by an audience consisting of invited guests and students from New York schools . Set and lighting was created by Robert Wilson , while David Horn directed it . Bennett and Gaga were joined onstage by 39 @-@ piece orchestra conducted by Jorge Calandrelli , soloists Chris Botti on trumpet and David Mann on tenor sax , and jazz musicians associated with both artists .

Gaga wore a myriad of costumes , including a feathered crown from Gympie milliner Cindy Vogels during " I Won 't Dance " . Vogels was contacted by Brandon Maxwell Studios from New York ? Gaga 's stylist ? for designer pieces available for the concert . According to the milliner the crown almost never reached Gaga since the entire shipment was seized in Anchorage , Alaska due to the feathers on the piece being subjected to wildlife import issues with US customs officials . After much paperwork for five days the millinery designs were finally released and arrived just in time for the Cheek to Cheek promotional photo shoot . Vogels recalled , " It was nerve racking and exciting at the same time and a relief when the shipment was finally released from customs . " Maxwell said that he and his team did the wardrobe for the dancers and Gaga , and first took references from Wilson regarding the set and lighting designs . The team then started with eight full racks of clothing , between 200 and 300 dresses , and afterwards zeroed in on eight costumes for the show , along with its accessories . Regarding the absence of jewellery , Maxwell explained that most of the outfits " were more about the silhouette and structure of gowns " and too much of accessories would have been a distraction . He wanted the emphasis on Gaga 's vocals , hence the jewellery usage was reduced . Designers used for the costumes include Roberto Cavalli , Michael Costello , Mathieu

Mirano , Valentino as well as David Samuel Menkes , who created the leather jumpsuit . Gaga had wanted costumes with teal or turquoise colours and flowing gowns , belted in the middle . Maxwell took care to ensure that the dresses were not too tight in Gaga 's abdomen area , since it would have been difficult for her to sing . Sandals were provided by Brian Atwood , Stuart Weitzman and Sophia Webster , while a pair of boots were designed by Giuseppe Zanotti . They created custom made shoes which made Gaga appear tall and move freely in the long gowns .

= = Concert synopsis = =

Bennett and Gaga performed thirteen songs . The concert started with Bennett and Gaga appearing before the crowd and singing " Anything Goes " , then moving on to the title track , " Cheek to Cheek " . A costume change ensues , and Gaga and Bennett appear on stage to sing " Nature Boy " . Bennett continues with " How Do You Keep the Music Playing ? " following which Gaga appears on stage in Menkes ' red jumpsuit and a big wig to sing her solo rendition of " Bang Bang ( My Baby Shot Me Down ) " . Following a standing ovation , the duo come together to perform the Billy Strayhorn penned " Firefly " and Gaga disappears for a third costume change . She appears in Vogels ' crown hat and a Valentino gown and together they sing " I Won 't Dance " and " I Can 't Give You Anything but Love " , wearing Cavalli . Gaga stays on stage for solo rendition of " Lush Life " , followed by Bennett with his solo performance of " Sophisticated Lady " . After another costume change , the duo sing " Let 's Face the Music and Dance " and " But Beautiful " . The final performance is aided by the full band and dancers , as they sing " It Don 't Mean a Thing ( If It Ain 't Got That Swing ) " . After taking a bow , Bennett and Gaga disappear behind the curtains .

= = Critical reception = =

Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga : Cheek to Cheek Live ! received mostly positive reviews from critics . Kathryn Shattuck of The New York Times said that is difficult to recognize Lady Gaga " out of her usual get @-@ ups : the meat dresses , seashell bikinis , towering stilettos and skyscraper hair " and praised Bennett 's vocals " his voice still strong at 88 , take on the Great American Songbook and prove again that the classics can bridge many divides . " Soraya Nadia McDonald of The Washington Post wrote " It 's become practically cliché to note what an odd couple they make , so we 'll just remind you they 're actually both divine live performers and they 've got great chemistry . " Jeff Pfeiffer from Channel Guide said that although Bennett and Gaga " engage in some playfulness and camaraderie which is generally fun , though Lady Gaga may be trying too hard at times " . He added that " The artists and the terrific orchestra are in fine form , and though the editing between numbers seemed a bit rapid on occasion , the production and directing is effective to capture the performances " .

Lori Rackl from Chicago Sun @-@ Times rated the concert three stars out of four , and observed that it could have " easily fallen into creepy / weird territory " due to the unlikely pairing , but deduced that it was " a classy affair jazzed up by Gaga 's always interesting wardrobe choices , which bounce between 70s Cher and Cleopatra . " Erin Strecker from Billboard reviewed Gaga 's performance of " Bang Bang ( My Baby Shot Me Down ) " calling her rendition as " incredible " and saying that her " version is all big notes and dramatic tension . Note to Gaga : More of this , please . "

Writing for the Seattle Post @-@ Intelligencer , Matt Rush , who had attended the concert in July , noted that the original concert was much longer than the broadcast , due to the time taken by Gaga for changing her costumes . Rush complimented Bennett 's performance saying " At 88 , the remarkable Tony Bennett ... can still deliver the goods , and his solo rendition of ' How Do You Keep the Music Playing ? ' is the soaring highlight of [ the special ] . Bennett 's rapport with Gaga seems genuine , and they have a sweet , unforced musical chemistry in these selections from their current album of standards . " Brad Oswald from the Winnipeg Free Press was impressed by the duos vocal delivery , saying that " the 88 @-@ year @-@ old crooner and the 28 @-@ year @-@ old pop diva meld voices seamlessly as they serve up swinging duet versions of such standards " . New York Daily News TV Critic David Hinckley , who awarded the concert with four out of five stars , was

surprised by Lady Gaga being a " multifaceted singer , not just a dance diva " and stated that Gaga handled the fashion side of the event . He finished the review declaring " The singing in general is solid . Bennett can still hit some remarkable notes , and more important , he understands the songs . "

Rand Duren from The Dallas Morning News wrote five reasons why people should not miss the special , claiming " The show is filled to the brim with stunning performances so be ready for a night of musical bliss . " Dave Walker from The Times @-@ Picayune complimented Gaga 's vocals , likening them to that of singer Liza Minnelli . CNET 's Ty Pendlebury was present during the recording of the special and remarked that " without the autotune and other electronic fiddling , Lady Gaga can really sing " , but found Bennett 's voice to be " bit croaky " sometimes . He also noticed that the whole concert was especially filmed for television , without any audience interaction and " dead silences in between songs . "

At the 67th Primetime Creative Arts Emmy Awards on September 12 , 2015 , the special was nominated for Outstanding Variety , Music or Comedy Special , which went to the Saturday Night Live 40th Anniversary Special .

= = Promotion and video release = =

Promotional videos were released for " Anything Goes " ( from Brussels performance ) and " Bang Bang ( My Baby Shot Me Down ) " ( from the PBS special ) on September 27 , 2014 . Videos for " Nature Boy " , " I Won 't Dance " , and a backstage video filmed prior to the concert were also included . While the show was being transmitted , Gaga tweeted live and answered questions from fans .

The special was shot with a total of 13 Red Digital Cinema Camera Company 's Epic Dragon camera line . Bennett and Gaga partnered with LG Electronic , who had also co @-@ sponsored the concert . According to their deal , the concert started airing across all retail chains in the United States , on LG 's 4K Ultra High @-@ definition TV screens . Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga : Cheek to Cheek Live ! became the first such concert to be streamed in 4K resolution . LG provided the streaming to dealers for in @-@ store display on their HD TV screens . Dave VanderWaal , the company 's head of marketing , said that " thanks in part to LG 's co @-@ sponsorship , customers will be able to stream the performance in the highest resolution at no added cost . " VanderWaal further clarified that LG had been looking for a way to be upfront in the 4K market and found the option of streaming the concert for its customers as informative and lucrative . Besides , he felt that Bennett and Gaga were suitable from a brand perspective and they would be able to have exclusive rights on the concert .

PBS later announced that the concert was filmed in 4K resolution and was recorded for a 73 @-@ minute DVD , which customers from Amazon Video would be able to stream firstly . On January 20 , 2015 , the DVD and Blu @-@ ray was released , being released later for digital download on iTunes Store . The DVD and Blu @-@ ray editions include additional songs originally not aired on television including , " They All Laughed " , " Lady 's In Love With You " , " Goody Goody " , " Bewitched , Bothered and Bewildered " , " Don 't Wait Too Long " and " Ev 'ry Time We Say Goodbye " . The DVD charted at number four on the Australian DVD Chart and number one in the US . It also charted on top 10 in many countries , including UK and France .

= = = Track listing = = =

= = = Charts = = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits and personnel adapted from the concert special program .

Tony Bennett ? lead vocals

Lady Gaga ? lead vocals

= = = Tony Bennett Quartet = = =

= = = Brian Newman Quartet = = =

= = = Dancers = = =

= = = The After Midnight Band = = =

= = = Orchestra = = =

= = = Production = = =