



## Coming Home to Me: Lisa Rothauser in Concert Review

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From start to finish, Lisa Rothauser graces the audience with her larger than life stage presence and her powerhouse vocal stylings. Appearing at 54 Below in a show called "LIFE. WTF?" Lisa delves into the story of her life as a performer, mother, and up and coming songwriter. Performing both interpretations of songs written by legendary composers, including Stephen Sondheim and Jule Styne,

as well as original songs co-written with her talented beau and music director, Tor Hyams. Lisa is a joy to watch as she fully embraces life and the music that clearly makes her heart sing.



There is no question that Lisa's voice is sensational. She hits Craig Carnelia's "Flight" out of the park and she has great comedic timing to boot. In her rendition of "The Ladies Who Lunch," Lisa tells the story of meeting her very own prince charming who sweeps her off her feet and then off to the far away land of Connecticut, but alas he turns out to be not so charming or princely after all. While Lisa's voice shines and her story telling is captivating, I did find myself wanting to see more vulnerability from her. I also wanted to know more about her life in St. Louis and her marriage and kids. I felt invested in Lisa and her

story and so I found myself wanting to see more layers fall away. Lisa moved me when she did finally peel those layers away, accompanying herself and singing “Funny Girl” by Bob Merrill and Jule Styne. It was simply stunning.



Lisa seamlessly segues from her life in Connecticut to her move to the West Village and meeting Tor Hyams with their charming duet “Maybe, Maybe Not,” both written and performed by the duo. Another highlight comes with the original, “I Love His Face.” The lyrics are clever, the music is beautiful, and it’s hard to imagine anyone else singing it.

Lisa’s band is off the charts. With Tor Hyams on piano, Al Street on guitar, James Quinlan on bass, Brad Wentworth on drums, Morgan Price on Reeds, James Colby on trumpet, and Kevin Moehringer on

trombone. They really swing. It's a fantastic group of musicians, Lisa included.

The shows a lot of fun and it's got something for everyone. Keep an eye out for Lisa and Tor's next rendezvous.