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This Time: A Musical Documentary. Review.

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Contrary to what one might expect from a documentary directed, edited, and filmed by one person, Mignatti's film is as slick and polished as it is knowing and entertaining. Chronicled are a few of the unsung masters of music recording, performing, writing, and producing, the 99 percent whose reward is mostly artistic. The legendary Sweet Inspirations, who worked with everyone from Elvis Presley to Dusty Springfield, regroup to record and promote a new CD. Longtime Manhattan performer and recording artist Bobby Belfry continues his work despite the dwindling number of piano bars. He is the rare cabaret artist (he doesn't like that label) who writes most of his own work. His complaints of still singing in the same bar week after week or small audiences come across as a bit whiny compared to what the Sweet Inspirations and others have been through. These are the stories of the true survivors, still working and not forgotten. Bonus features include the Inspirations' inside stories of performing with Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin, and many others. VERDICT Highly recommended for those who love music and the many talents behind it.

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