

March 26, 2015

NY CULTURE

## New Wave Icon Turns Supper-Club Chanteuse

Debbie Harry plays the Carlyle, plus Myra Melford, Paquito D'Rivera and music to accompany a cinematic trip to hell



Debbie Harry PHOTO: NELSON BARNARD/GETTY IMAGES

### Debbie Harry

#### The Café Carlyle

35 E. 76th St., (212) 744-1600

Through April 4

“Slip into the velvet glove / Parted lips so filled with love.” That’s one of the lines whereby [Debbie Harry](#) establishes her supper club bona fides for the next two weeks at the Carlyle. In the tradition of the cabaret icons who have played that room, she knows how to relate to an audience 3 feet in front of her on a direct and intimate level, and she knows how to tell a story. But the major drawback that prohibits her from completely connecting with the crowd is the use of a single accompanist (Matt Katz-Bohen) who plays guitar and keyboards but mostly manipulates a vast electronics kit. Devoted Blondie fans will probably feel differently, but to Carlyle habitués, the use of preprogrammed tracks gives her music a garage-band veneer and eliminates the feeling of spontaneous communication. Still, she’s a formidable personage to experience, especially at such an up close and personal level.