

March 12, 2015

# I've Got a Little List, Continued

*Eric Alterman on March 12, 2015 - 1:02 PM ET*

## Alter-reviews:

### 1) Herb Alpert at the Café Carlyle

I caught the opening night of Herb Alpert's March 10-21 stand at the Café Carlyle where he was joined by his wife of forty or so years, the vocalist Lani Hall, and a fine three piece band that has been accompanying them for the past eight years. In a two-week run of shows, Alpert, who will turn 80 this year, is one of the most fortunate musicians alive, having not only had a sixty year career, but also having had the good sense to cofound A&M Records—the A is for “Alpert”—and has become unimaginably rich as well. (He does do a great deal of philanthropy.) And he's still playing pretty well, and even put a new album up on the jazz charts last year called *In The Mood* and won his ninth Grammy. The year before that President Obama gave him the National Medal of Arts. He's also a pretty serious painter and sculptor and is having a show right now with Richard Mayhew, *Harmonic Rhythms*, at my friend's ACA Gallery right now.

Tuesday's show was a pretty relaxed affair. There was a TJB medley and Alpert made the crowd sing along with “This Guy's In Love” because his voice is not really up to it anymore. His meandering on the trumpet was lovely on mostly Great American Songbook classics and he took requests and questions from the crowd in good humor. Ms. Hall, whom Alpert met when he was producing Sergio Mendes and Brazil '66, has a great voice, but you have to like songs sung the way Barbra Streisand belts them out when she's belting to concur with her interpretations of say, “Up on the Roof.”

I'm looking forward to Debbie Harry's upcoming run at the Carlyle in the next few weeks.