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Rita Wilson Opens at Café Carlyle to Packed House That Includes Husband Tom Hanks

2/24/2016 by [Jessie Katz](#)



Rita Wilson performs at Café Carlyle in New York City on Feb. 23, 2016.

DAVID ANDRAKO FOR CAFÉ CARLYLE

Rita Wilson opened her residency at Café Carlyle in New York on Tuesday night to a full room, at the front of which sat her biggest fan: husband Tom Hanks. Wilson referenced the beaming Hanks several times between songs, telling the audience that before she met her husband of nearly 28 years, "I never thought I would fall in love."

Hanks slipped into his seat in the crowded dining room after the lights dimmed, nabbing a prime spot next to Gayle King of *CBS This Morning*, who had showed up much earlier and kept checking the entrance as she waited for her famous companion (many others in the room were waiting to see if he would be there as well).

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In her set, Wilson showed off some new songs from her self-titled album that comes out March 11, as well as older ones from her 2012 debut *AM/FM*. She mixed in a few fun covers as well, including The Weeknd's "Can't Feel My Face," which she insinuated was an appropriate anthem in this era of rampant plastic surgery.

Listen to Rita Wilson's 'Along For The Ride' From Her First Album of Original Songs: Exclusive Song Premiere

The performer, who reprised her role as Marnie's mom in Sunday's season 5 premiere of *Girls*, also alluded to her difficult past year battling breast cancer, which necessitated a double mastectomy last spring in the middle of her Broadway run in Larry David's *Fish in the Dark*.

"I survived a major health issue and I survived six or seven months with Larry David," she quipped to much laughter. (Less popular was her joke earlier in the set about all the "new hips" in the audience, a nod to the older crowd that the Carlyle tends to attract -- but perhaps does not like to be described as such.) Judging by the applause she received at night's end, however, she had clearly gotten them back on her side.

Wilson's run at the Carlyle ends March 5 before the singer hits the road for a spring headlining tour.