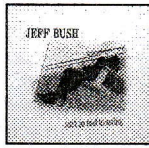


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violinist of considerable mediocrity many moons ago, I was totally knocked out by this recording and am now inspired to look in every nook and cranny for my old fiddle!



Jeff Bush – Ain't so Bad to Swing
 Beezwax Records BW 2574
 New York (2010)
 Jeff Bush – tenor & bass
 trombones/bass trumpet/vcl; Scott
 Robinson – clt/C-melody sax; John
 Collianni – pno; James Chirillo – gtr;
 Matt Hughes – bs; Kevin Dorn – dms.

This CD was recorded in 2008 in New York, mastered in 2009 in Pennsylvania, and lovingly "Hand Assembled" for Jeff Bush by someone unacknowledged under the special Serial No. 056115. Such is the difficulty of getting great jazz recordings out to the public domain in these times of global recession.

And great jazz it is, indeed, with a sextet of some of the USA's finest musos playing some of the best tunes ever written. Think of composers and lyricists such as Sammy Kahn, Julie Styne, Charles Chaplin, Hoagy Carmichael, Sidney Arodin, Benny Goodman, Charlie Christian and one by Jeff Bush himself. Then conjure up what you'd like to hear done to add freshness to tunes such as *Jazz Me Blues*, *Japanese Sandman*, *Rose of Washington Square*, *Someday Sweetheart* and *Seven Come Eleven*. When you've thought about that, take the sheer brilliance of the arrangements played just as you'd expect by these superlative musicians who can solo like jazz was just invented, and there's only one other thing to do. Go out and find a record shop that will order it for you!



Cindy van der Ree
Some Kind of Beautiful
 Recorded (2010)
 Cindy van der Ree –vcls; Ben van
 den Akker – dms (Jack Bennett on
 tcks 2 & 7); Barney Loveland – bs;
 Craig Harris – pno/hmnd/Rhodes;
 Glenn Cannon – gtr; Doug Pors - gtr; Dave Tweedie
 – gtr (tcks 6 & 12); Troy McMillin pno; Backing vcls -
 C v d R/Martin Visser/Troy McMillin.

It's fairly unusual for a modern young vocalist to write lyrics that can be identified with by a

Phone:

wide range of variously aged listeners. The great lyricists of the 1930s to 1960s knew how to do it, but that talent has mostly disappeared in the 21st century, so we're often left with very personal lyrics that are meaningful only to the person of limited life experience who composed them. Not so in the case of Cindy van der Ree, who not only wrote the lyrics but also the music for all of these songs, with the help of Doug Pors on track 3 – *Closer*. She may well be writing about her own experiences of life, but they are what many of us have experienced and are the better for it. She has a smile in her voice, good intonation and melodic invention. The tunes have rhythmic variety and a lyrical maturity that is so welcome, with every word printed in the sleeve (at the expense of some bio notes). She has chosen some talented accompanists, too. Nice one, Cindy.



Elly Hoyt
 Pinnacle Music PM 0210
 Sydney (2010)
 Elly Hoyt –vcl; Matt McMahon –
 pno; Tim Firth – dms; Phil Stock –
 bs; James Sherlock – gtr; John
 Hoffman – flgl (tcks 6 & 8).

With compositions by Ellington, Jobim, Porter, Hammerstein and Kern, a couple of modernists and one by the girl herself, this CD gets off to a fine start with *Just Squeeze Me*, includes *Ell's Blues*, *Foolish Heart* and *Nobody Else But Me*, and concludes with Nat Adderly's *The Old Country*. Elly has an appealing and very expressive voice which extracts the real meaning and intensity of lyrics. From whispered love songs to hard edged blues, she enchants, romps, and rants through many moods and is encouraged all the way by her band of top east coast musos. Another Aussie singer that is well worth engaging with in the comfort of your own home.

Reviews by Ron Spain