

Jack McDuff – Sophisticated Funk (1976)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Dit Da Dit* [play](#) 2. *Ju Ju* [play](#) 3. *To Be Named Later* 4. *Summer Dream* 5. *Jack's Boogie* 6. *Mini Pads* 7. *Electric Surf Board* 8. *Mannix Theme*

Saxophone, Flute – Joe Farrell Guitar – Robert Banks, Walter Morris Drums – Scott Schoer, Clarence Oliver, Ted McKinsey, Arnold Ramsey, Joe Corsello Congas, Percussion – Craig Derry (2), Scott Saunders Bass – Frank Prescod Piano – Brian Cuomo Jack McDuff - organ

Sophisticated...maybe. Funky...not so much. This forgettable effort from Jack McDuff veers far too close to smooth jazz territory for comfort -- swapping his signature Hammond B-3 for keyboards, McDuff settles for a fusion sound suggesting a particularly tepid CTI session, with none of the swagger and groove of his most memorable records. Saxophonist/flutist Joe Harrell is similarly tentative, although one must blame Billy Jones' overly slick arrangements -- there's really not much chance of salvaging cuts like "Mini Pads" and "'Mannix' Theme." Definitely don't judge this one by its lurid cover -- it's as tame as a de-clawed house cat. ---Jason Ankeny, Rovi

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