

Joanne Brackeen – Take A Chance (1994)

Written by bluesever

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1 *Recado Bossa Nova* (Antonio, Ferreira) 7:00 2 *Children's Games* (Jobim, Lees) 7:57 3 *Estate* (Brighetti, Martino) 5:34 4 *Cancao Do Sal* (Nascimento) 5:53 5 *Frevo* (Gismonti) 6:26 6 *Mountain Flight* (Horta) 5:21 7 *The Island* (Lins, Martins) 6:14 8 *Take a Chance* (Brackeen) 4:17 [play](#) 9 *Ponta de Areia* (Nascimento) 4:07 [play](#) 10 *Duduka* (Brackeen) 4:46 11 *Mist on a Rainbow* (Brackeen) 4:50

Personnel: Joanne Brackeen (piano), Waltinho Anastacio (vocals, percussion), Eddie Gomez (bass), Duduka Da Fonseca (drums)

This is a delightful set, a program of eight Brazilian tunes and three of pianist Joanne Brackeen's originals. With strong assistance provided by bassist Eddie Gomez, drummer Duduka da Fonseca and percussionist Waltinho Anastacio, Brackeen adds beauty and adventure to such numbers as "Recado Bossa Nova," "Estate," "The Island" and a pair of Milton Nascimento songs. The pianist stretches the songs a bit in spots but never neglects their melodies or the original moods. Well worth several listens. ---Scott Yanow, AMG

Joanne Brackeen (born July 26, 1938) is an American jazz pianist and music educator. She attended the Los Angeles Conservatory of Music, but devoted herself to jazz by imitating Frankie Carle albums. She was influenced by Charlie Parker and bebop.

Her career began in the late 1950s while working with names like Dexter Gordon, Teddy Edwards, Harold Land, Don Cherry, Charlie Haden and Charles Lloyd, but in 1969 it began to "take off" as she became the first woman in Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers.

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She played with Joe Henderson (1972-75) and Stan Getz (1975-1977) before leading her own trio and quartet. Brackeen established herself as a cutting edge pianist and composer through her appearances around the world, and her solo performances also cemented her reputation as one of the most innovative and dynamic of pianists. Her trios featured such noted players as Clint Houston, Eddie Gomez, John Patitucci, Jack DeJohnette, Cecil McBee, and Billy Hart.

She served on the grant panel for the National Endowment for the Arts, toured the Middle East with the US State Department as sponsor, and had solo performances at Carnegie Hall.

She has 25 albums as a lead musician and is a professor at the Berklee College of Music and at The New School. Brackeen was formerly married to tenor saxophonist Charles Brackeen. The two have since divorced.

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