

Lyambiko - Muse (2015)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 23 May 2018 12:27 -

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01. *Muse* (5:10) 02. *I Went To Heaven* (3:49) 03. *Landslide* (4:25) 04. *Willow Weep For Me* (5:47) 05. *Do You Remember Me* (4:50) 06. *Can't We Be Friends* (2:54) 07. *Besame Mucho* (5:58) 08. *Goodbye Pork Pie Hat* (4:47) 09. *Horacio* (3:07) 10. *On & On* (4:13) 11. *Spring* (2:50) 12. *Looking For Love* (3:38) 13. *Exit Ahead* (4:20) 14. *And How I Hoped For Your Love* (4:22) Bass – Robin Draganic Drums – Heinrich Köbberling Piano – Marque Lowenthal Vocals – Lyambiko

Germany's Lyambiko is a highly regarded jazz vocalist known for her soulful, romantic style. Born Sandy Mueller in 1978 in Greiz, Thuringia, Germany, Lyambiko (her Tanzanian father's surname) was raised in a musical family; her father and grandfather were both musicians. Growing up, she studied clarinet and saxophone, along with taking classical vocal lessons and playing in school bands. At age 17 she formed her first group, playing a mix of folk, pop, and blues. However, it wasn't until after moving to Berlin in 1999 that she seriously pursued a jazz vocal career. Adopting her mononymous stage name, she began performing locally, singing jazz standards with a guitarist in a duo setting. Eventually, she caught the ear of renowned jazz vocalist Mark Murphy, who helped secure her a high-profile show at Berlin's premier club A-Train in 2000. Her career took off, and in 2002 she released her debut album, *Out of This Mood*, on Nagel Heyer Records, followed a year later by *Shades of Delight*.

She then signed with Sony and delivered 2005's eponymous *Lyambiko*, which earned her a German Jazz Gold Award. Two more well-received albums followed with 2006's *Love... And Then* and 2007's *Inner Sense*, both of which also took home German Jazz Awards. Lyambiko paid tribute to longtime idol Nina Simone with *Saffronia* in 2008. The album garnered significant attention in France, and raised the singer's profile even higher. She returned two years later with *Something Like Reality*. In 2012 she released another tribute album with *Sings Gershwin*, followed three years later by *Muse*. In 2017 Lyambiko delivered *Love Letters*, an album of originals and standards inspired by a box of letters she discovered written in the 1930s by her husband's grandfather. ---Matt Collar, allmusic.com

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