Badi Assad - Rhythms (1996)



Pulo do Gato
À Gandáia das Ondas/Beppo
À Primeira Vista
O Choro de Juliana
Rhythms
Song for Badi
Bate-Coxa
Feixe
Quase Um Funk P'ra Badi/Vírus
Laser
Ica
Pau Brasil
Moods - Ba
Carta a l'Exili
Badi Assad - Arranger, Composer, Guitar, Vocals

While Badi Assad isn't a jazz singer per se, the singer/acoustic guitarist clearly thrives on improvisation and spontaneity. This is no doubt one of the main reasons she ended up on the jazz-oriented Chesky Records. When Rhythms was recorded at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in New York, Chesky treated the project much as it would treat a jazz recording -- the tape was rolling, and Assad was encouraged to simply let loose and blow. No overdubbing took place, and this very honest and straightforward approach makes for a riveting listen on songs by Chico César, Marco Pereira and other Brazilian composers. Although the vast majority of her influences are Brazilian, Assad's Lebanese heritage is a definite advantage on the magnificent and varied Rhythms. -- Alex Henderson, Rovi

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Written by bluesever Thursday, 15 October 2009 19:06 - Last Updated Thursday, 24 July 2014 10:01

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