

Bill Evans & Jim Hall - Undercurrent 1962 (2002)

Written by bluesever

Friday, 17 October 2014 15:53 - Last Updated Friday, 17 October 2014 15:56

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1. *My Funny Valentine* (Richard Rodgers) 2. *I Hear a Rhapsody* (Jack Baker, George Fragos, Dick Gasparre) 3. *Dream Gypsy* (Judith Veveers) 4. *Romain* (Jim Hall) 5. *Skating in Central Park* (John Lewis) 6. *Darn That Dream* (Jimmy Van Heusen) 7. *Stairway to the Stars* (Matty Malneck, Frank Signorelli) 8. *I'm Getting Sentimental over You* (George Bassman) 9. *My Funny Valentine* (Richard Rodgers) (alternate take) 10. *Romain* (Jim Hall) (alternate take)
Jim Hall - guitar Bill Evans – piano

Other than four piano solos from April 4, 1962, this set was pianist Bill Evans' first recordings after a hiatus caused by bassist Scott LaFaro's tragic death in a car accident. The first of two meetings on record in a duo format with guitarist Jim Hall, the collaborations are often exquisite. Both Evans and Hall had introspective and harmonically advanced styles along with roots in hard-swinging bebop. There is more variety than expected on the fine set with some cookers, ballads, waltzes, and even some hints at classical music. Recommended. [Some reissues include four bonus tracks, including two alternate takes and previously unheard versions of "Stairway to the Stars" and "I'm Getting Sentimental Over You."] ---Scott Yanow, Rovi

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