

Ella Fitzgerald With The Tommy Flanagan Trio (1996)

Written by bluesever

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01. *I Won't Dance* 02. *That Old Black Magic* 03. *Medley: It Happened In Monterey/No Regrets/It's A Wonderful World* 04. *Cabaret* 05. *I Love You Madly* 06. *A Man & A Woman* 07. *All Right, O.K., You Win* 08. *People* 09. *I Concentrate On You* 10. *Mr. Paganini* 11. *I'm Beginning To See The Light* 12. *My Heart Belongs To Daddy* 13. *Just One Of Those Things* 14. *I Can't Give You Anything But Love Baby* Personnel: Ella Fitzgerald (vocals); Tommy Flanagan, Lou Levy (piano); Frank Delarose, Max Bennett (bass); Ed Thigpen, Gus Johnson (drums).

Bop pianist Tommy Flanagan is considered by many to be the archetypal jazz sideman. Though he lead his own group for years, he was self-effacing enough to take a back seat to a singer or lead instrumentalist when necessary. He supported Ella Fitzgerald, and many of her finest moments were recorded with his trio.

In front of a big band, Fitzgerald is a brassy, sassy singer. In smaller settings, though she still has that natural exuberance, her voice is more controlled and her honeyed lower register gets more of a workout. This 1969 trio session finds Fitzgerald and Flanagan in a mellow mood. Even up-tempo material like a coquettish "My Heart Belongs to Daddy" has a relaxed, laid-back feel. Other standout tracks include a bittersweet "Cabaret" and a cool take on Francis Lai's "A Man and a Woman." ---Rovi

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