

Melanie De Biasio - No Deal Remixed (2015)

Written by bluesever

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01 - *I Feel You (EELS Remix)* [00:02:49] 02 - *The Flow (Hex Remix)* [00:07:57] 03 - *No Deal (Seven Davis Jr. Remix)* [00:06:24] 04 - *With Love Sweet Darling Pain (Gilles Peterson & Simbad Remix)* [00:05:02] 05 - *Sweet Darling Pain (Chassol Remix)* [00:03:36] 06 - *I'm Gonna Leave You (Clap! Clap! Remix)* [00:02:54] 07 - *With All My Love (Jonwayne Remix)* [00:04:48] 08 - *I'm Gonna Leave You (The Cinematic Orchestra Remix)* [00:08:56] Melanie De Biasio - Lead Vocals, Flute Pascal Mohy – Piano Pascal Paulus – Clavinet, Synthesizer Dré Pallemmaerts - Drums Remix – Chassol (tracks: C1), Cinematic Orchestra, The (tracks: D2), Clap! Clap! (tracks: C2), Eels (tracks: A1), Gilles Peterson (tracks: B2), Hex (tracks: A2), Jonwayne (tracks: D1), Seven Davis Jr. (tracks: B1), Simbad (tracks: B2)

One of the motivations behind remix albums is to push listeners back to the original release. In the case of Belgian/Italian singer Melanie de Biasio, her *No Deal* album was a real sleeper in 2014, with people slowly finding their own way to it, be it through word of mouth or on the back of fantastic live shows. For this album, de Biasio fan Gilles Peterson is the ringmaster who has commissioned producers and acts like the Cinematic Orchestra, Jonwayne, Chasol and others to repaint and redraw the originals. All are well considered and sprightly, though some are better judged than others, with Italian maestro Clap! Clap! and Cinematic Orchestra both marking up very different takes on *I'm Gonna Leave You*. The pick of the redos is probably Jonwayne's beautifully embellished work on *With All My Love*. --- irishtimes.com

The mostly soothing, slightly baleful, ultimately seductive *No Deal*, the self-produced second album from songwriter, vocalist, and flutist Melanie De Biasio, reached number five on the Ultratop album chart in the artist's native Belgium and gradually charmed DJs and publications in other territories. Released weeks after she performed at BBC DJ Gilles Peterson's Worldwide

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Awards ceremony and collected a trophy at the European Border Breakers Awards, this is a rare remix album that can be enjoyed from beginning to end, as an alternative version rather than as a clashing assortment of remixes. Arranged by Peterson, who called upon some of his favorite contemporary musicians and producers, No Deal Remixed presents all of the album's songs in new form, identically sequenced, though Cinematic Orchestra's weighty version of "I'm Gonna Leave You" -- different from Clap! Clap!'s lighter, busier work earlier in the program -- functions like a bonus track. Peterson and Simbad's fusion of "With Love" and "Sweet Darling Pain" is central, the most dramatic and radical rework. Its tremulous juke patterns gradually intensify and fill the original's space and pensiveness with nervous anxiety. Another striking remix comes from Eels (Mark Oliver Everett), who possibly took the first line of "I Feel You" -- "I feel you/A deep echo in me" -- as something of a cue. He makes the album opener sound decades old. Through its squally strings, one can envision a rapid playback of scenes from a past romance. Japanese Blue Note act Hex's stuttering/driving revamp of "The Flow" places greater emphasis on De Biasio's flute, while Seven Davis Jr.'s contribution with "No Deal" is a lean house track that treats her voice like a sample source. ---Andy Kellman, Rovi

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