John Coltrane & Johnny Hartman (1963)

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1. They Say It's Wonderful 2. Dedicated to You 3. My One and Only Love 4. Lush Life 5. You Are Too Beautiful 6. Autumn Serenade John Coltrane - Sax (Soprano), Sax (Tenor) Johnny Hartman - Vocals Jimmy Garrison - Bass Elvin Jones - Drums McCoy Tyner - Piano Bob Thiele – Producer

John Coltrane's matchup with singer Johnny Hartman, although quite unexpected, works extremely well. Hartman was in prime form on the six ballads, and his versions of "Lush Life" and "My One and Only Love" have never been topped. Coltrane's playing throughout the session is beautiful, sympathetic, and still exploratory; he sticks exclusively to tenor on the date. At only half an hour, one wishes there were twice as much music, but what is here is classic, essential for all jazz collections. ---Scott Yanow, Rovi

John Coltrane and Johnny Hartman (Impulse!, 1963) is a must-own for several reasons: It provides the best glance at Coltrane's sensitive side. It captures Johnny Hartman - a singer who never got the recognition he deserved - at his best. And finally, it offers some of the best ever renditions of songs such as "Lush Life," and "My One and Only Love." --- Jacob Teichroew, jazz.about.com

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