

Keith Jarrett Trio - Whisper Not (Live in Paris) [2000]

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 03 March 2011 20:00 - Last Updated Friday, 02 January 2015 17:29

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Keith Jarrett
W h i s p e r
Gary Peacock
N o t
Jack DeJohnette

CD1

1. *Bouncing With Bud* 7:31
2. *Whisper Not* 8:04 [play](#)
3. *Groovin' High* 8:29
4. *Chelsea Bridge* 9:46
5. *Wrap Your Troubles In Dreams* 5:46
6. *'Round Midnight* 6:43
7. *Sandu* 7:26

CD2

1. *What Is This Thing Called Love?* 12:22
2. *Conception* 8:07
3. *Prelude To A Kiss* 8:14
4. *Hallucinations* 6:34
5. *All My Tomorrows* 6:22
6. *Poinciana* 9:09
7. *When I Fall In Love* 8:06 [play](#)

Personnel:

Keith Jarrett (piano);
Gary Peacock (double bass);
Jack DeJohnette (drums).

Recorded live at Palais Des Congres, Paris, France on July 5, 1999.

For Keith Jarrett, this extremely satisfying concert with the Standards Trio on two CDs is a personal landmark, the first for-the-record sign that he had recovered from the chronic fatigue syndrome that laid him low for three years in the late 1990s. Indeed, by the time this Paris gig took place, he had come all the way back -- his technical facilities intact (a handful of smeared

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notes aside), his inventiveness bubbling over. Old cohorts Gary Peacock (bass) and Jack DeJohnette (drums) are back, too, regenerating their propulsive, swinging, collective E.S.P. at will. Not too much has changed from the pre-illness days, though the focus is very much on classic bebop now -- with Bud Powell getting a good deal of attention with an outstanding "Bouncing With Bud" and a terrific "Hallucinations" that has an atypically funny false ending. Jarrett's bebop runs on "Groovin' High" are astonishing, "Wrap Your Troubles in Dreams" is appealingly jaunty and carefree, and ballads like "Round Midnight" and "Prelude to a Kiss" revert to the melodic simplicity that was cultivated during Jarrett's down time. Even though the Standards Trio has been one of the most prolifically recorded groups of its era, only the final encore, "When I Fall in Love," had been recorded before by this group. So even those who think they have enough material by this group will be rightly tempted to invest in this document of Jarrett's resurrection. ~ Richard S. Ginell

Listening to the high-energy, florid runs, quirky twists, and trademark whines that tattoo "Bouncin' with Bud," the opening track of *Whisper Not*, it's hard to believe that Keith Jarrett was still in the throes of chronic fatigue syndrome when his trio recorded this date in Paris in July 1999. This isn't the Keith Jarrett of moody ruminations we heard on his solo CD *The Melody at Night, with You*, released in the fall of 1999. *Whisper Not* is closer to the Jarrett who launched the Standards Trio with drummer Jack DeJohnette and bassist Gary Peacock in 1983. The trio is still mining the songs of their youth, resurrecting "Poinciana," a signature song of Ahmad Jamal, an early Jarrett influence, and paying tribute to the bop masters with a rollicking take on Dizzy Gillespie's "Groovin' High" and a sophisticated excursion into Thelonious Monk's "Round Midnight." The interplay between these three musicians has never been higher, operating at a level beyond intuition, playing inside each other's heads. --John Diliberto

Seriously, are these guys just getting better? As if to remind us (after the beautiful, understated 'The Melody, at Night, with You') of his stunning technique, Jarrett presents here a repertoire that tends toward the bop, and hair-raising bop it is. I had the great good fortune of seeing the Standards Trio in Feb '99 in LA and, as this disc confirms, Jarrett seems as focused, or perhaps more so, than ever in his latest dates with this group. Jack DeJohnette is continually insistent and compelling in accompaniment while his solos, as usual, challenge you to find the one while reminding you that he knows exactly where it is. Gary Peacock combines solid up-tempo playing with his usual, probing solos. The interplay of these three masters is nothing short of telepathic. Apparent on this disc, as it was when I saw them, is how much joy and gratitude they feel at being together again. The fact that Jarrett is coming back from debilitating illness seems almost irrelevant when considered in light of the stunning level of play contained herein; however, as his heartfelt words from the stage in LA reminded me, only a courageous struggle allowed him to get back to the piano. Well, back he is, achieving with this long-standing trio the summit of jazz today.

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