Written by bluesever Saturday, 28 January 2012 19:34 - Last Updated Friday, 02 January 2015 20:35

Kenny Barron - Super Trio Super Standard (2004)



01. All of me 02. Bye bye blackbird 03. Cherokee 04. Cleopatra's dream <u>play</u> 05. Doxy 06. Misty 07. Stolen moments 08. Summer night 09. Sunset and the mockingbird 10. Sweet and lovely 11. Willow weep for me 12. Yesterdays <u>play</u>

Musicians: Kenny Barron – piano Jay Leonhart – bass Al Foster – drums

Super Trio is the name given by the Japanese Venus label to a trio of Manhattan based musicians, consisting of pianist Kenny Barron, bassist Jay Leonhart, and drummer Al Foster. Contractual reasons may have prevented the CD's release under Barron's name and like many Venus dates, this is not a working trio, but one assembled for the record date. As one of the busiest pianists around, Barron has a wealth of music at his fingertips and he doesn't disappoint with fresh approaches to standards and jazz compositions that make up this session. Leonhart occasionally shows a sense of humor in his solos, while Foster is a capable drummer who has worked with many stars, in addition to occasionally recording as a leader. The driving "All of Me" is a nice switch from the typical relaxed arrangement, while the Latin-flavored take of Bud Powell's "Cleopatra's Dream" swings. Barron's scoring of "Misty" proves lyrical and spacious, while he personalizes Duke Ellington's rarely performed "Sunset and the Mockingbird" with his distinctive touch. It is difficult not to think of Art Tatum when one sees "Willow Weep for Me" followed by "Yesterdays," but Tatum was not on Barron's mind for these performances. The former is a showcase for Leonhart's masterful arco playing, with the latter being a bouncy post-bop rendition of this old chestnut. ---Ken Dryden, allmusic.com

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