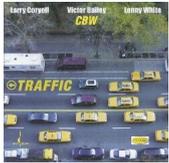


Larry Coryell, Victor Bailey & Lenny White □ – Traffic (2006)

Written by bluesever

Saturday, 09 April 2016 16:21 -

Larry Coryell, Victor Bailey & Lenny White □ – Traffic (2006)



1 *Judith Loves Jazz* 5:12 2 *Manic Depression* 3:58 3 *Door #3* 7:36 4 *Joyce's Favorite* 7:09 5 *Misterioso* 7:56 6 *Dedication* 5:37 7 *Drums & Bass* 7:18 8 *Jake's Lullaby* 3:43 9 *Overruled* 5:14 10 *Electric Jam* 9:00 Larry Coryell-Guitar (Acoustic), Guitar (Electric) Victor Bailey-Bass (Electric) Lenny White-Drums

Fusion guitar maestro Larry Coryell along with the redoubtable Victor Bailey (bass) and Lenny White (drums) re-unite for a follow up to the splendid 2005 "Electric" album, this time renting out a church album to hammer out another blistering jazz, rock and R&B set with surprises galore. Recorded straight with no overdubs using a state-of-the-art single mike recording method this disc once again captures the live atmosphere of the previous " Electric " with the individual musicians being even more laid back and adventurous as they cultivate a myriad of styles from Hendrix to Monk as well as creating their own magnificent compositions.

A largely electric set with Coryell on a hard body strat, he frequently nods back to his rockier formative years on tracks like Hendrix`s "Manic Depression" with a straight rock solo and the aptly titled "Overuled" which sounds at first like it could have been a lost Led Zeppelin track until Coryell unleashes a copious barrage of jazz chords. Two thoughtful acoustic numbers, an interpretation White`s previous "Dedication" and his own solo jazz/classical piece "Jake`s Lullaby" and Bailey`s " Joyce`s Favourite" feature Coryell on the instrument which dominated his late 70s output. Bailey and White`s superlative talents are also showcased throughout with Coryell sitting out on Bass & Drums which demonstrate their metric techniques on this funky workout demonstrating Bailey`s bang-up chording technique. The real manna on the album is the almost compulsory Thelonious Monk pilgrimage. After listening to Bonnie Riat`s slide techniques on his car radio Coryell makes history by turning Monk`s " Misterioso" into a country romp! Perhaps the first time Coryell has been heard on record using a slide and the result of this country/jazz meld is exactly what one would expect from the father of fusion guitar when he turns it into a full out straight jazz rave-up at the end. Phew! This one alone is worth the price of the disc!

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It's very refreshing to see Coryell revisiting aspects of his past well into his sixties. This project along with the previous "Electric" are testimonies that he's lost nothing and always has something devious up his sleeve. Along with the stalwart contributions from Bailey and White "Traffic" provides one of Coryell's most reachable recordings in the new millennium as he turns back the clock, delving into his treasure trove of musical faculties. ---Vibrationbaby, progarchives.com

CBW is back with their second album and Mr. Coryell, Mr. Bailey and Mr. White show why they're the best power trio slash jazz fusion group working today. By and large, big name recognition has eluded Larry Coryell despite his considerable talents. Larry will tell you that Jimi Hendrix is, hands down, the best guitarist ever. In the same breath, he'll tell you he resents him because it feels like his life was stolen from him. At roughly the same time as Jimi, Larry Coryell was blasting out fiery lick after lick and is widely regarded as the father of jazz fusion guitar. Doesn't seem fair that one man is a legend and the other man is acknowledged as one of the founders of a genre that many people think died back in the seventies. Stylistically, this album is more diverse than the first album, reminding his audience that Larry is equally at home playing straight jazz as well. Oh yeah, the other two guys, Victor Bailey and Lenny White, are pretty darned good as well. Seems like I've heard their names some place before. I think maybe they played fusion as well. Tongue planted firmly in cheek. One of my favorites of the year. ---John Terry, amazon.com

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