Grover Washington Jr. - Live At The Bijou (1977)

A1 On The Cusp 6:15 A2 You Make Me Dance 5:41 A3 Lock It In The Pocket 6:50 B1 Days In Our Lives 7:44 B2 Mr Magic 12:24 C1 Summer Song 7:30 C2 Juffure 9:30 D1 Sausalito 9:51 D2 Funkfoot 8:31 Bass – Tyrone Brown Drums – Millard Vinson Flute – Leslie Burrs Guitar – Richard Steacker Keyboards – James Simmons Percussion – Leonard Gibbs Tenor Saxophone, Alto Saxophone, Soprano Saxophone – Grover Washington, Jr. Violin [Electric] – John Blake

Grover Washington, Jr. always put on exciting shows, and this performance from the Bijou Cafe in Philadelphia is a good example of his repertoire in 1977. It doesn't reach the heights of his best studio recordings or concerts, but there are some fine moments. Utilizing his octet at the time (with violinist John Blake, keyboardist James Simmons, and flutist Leslie Burrs), this LP mostly features Washington playing lesser-known tunes that wouldn't be in his repertoire for long (other than a medley that includes "Mr. Magic"), but Washington (heard on tenor, alto, and soprano) consistently brightens the material. ---Scott Yanow, AllMusic Review

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