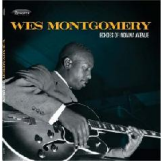


Wes Montgomery – Echoes of Indiana Avenue (2012)

Written by bluesever

Saturday, 14 April 2012 15:21 - Last Updated Sunday, 21 June 2015 15:28

Wes Montgomery – Echoes of Indiana Avenue (2012)



01 – Diablo's Dance 02 – Round Midnight 03 – Straight No Chaser 04 – Nica's Dream 05 – Darn that Dream 06 – Take the A Train 07 – Misty 08 – Body and Soul 09 – After Hours Blues Personnel: Wes Montgomery (guitar); Melvin Rhyne (piano, organ); Earl Van Riper, Buddy Montgomery (piano); Sonny Johnson, Paul Parker (drums).

Among jazz guitar aficionados there are few whose playing is as esteemed as that of the late Wes Montgomery (1925-1968). Although he was a clean man, and never succumbed to the many vices available to jazz musicians, Montgomery's heart gave out at the early age of 43. Sadly, he was just hitting his prime, both commercially and creatively. The melodic sound he brought to jazz with his smooth playing was an inspiration to an entire generation of guitarists.

Resonance Records has just released *Echoes of Indiana Avenue* by Wes Montgomery, and it will be a must for his fans. These previously unreleased tapes were discovered back in 1990, and were digitally transferred for preservation. They sat in the owner's archives until 2008 however, until a deal was cut to finally release them. Although the owner had the foresight to transfer the decaying masters to the digital medium, there was still a great deal of work to be done in remastering them for release.

Resonance has done an excellent job with this, for the music sounds great. The tapes were recorded prior to Montgomery's debut recording for the Riverside label in 1959. It is believed that these tapes were recorded as something of a demo in 1957 and 1958, to secure a record deal for him. A lot of research was needed for the project, to discover who the sidemen on the various nine tracks are. Fortunately, the folks at Resonance were up to the task, and according to the liner notes, "Have made our best efforts to properly identify the musicians, locations, and years from speaking with various musicians, scholars, and experts."

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One thing is certain, Wes Montgomery's singular style was already well developed by the time these recordings were made. Among the seven sidemen identified as playing are Montgomery's two brothers, Buddy (piano) and Monk (bass). --- [blogcritics.org](#)

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