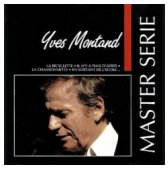
Yves Montand - Master Serie (1991)



01. À bicyclette [02:43] 02. Le Jazz et la java [02:33] 03. Le Chat de la voisine [02:45] 04. La Chansonnette [02:45] 05. Est-ce ainsi que les hommes vivent ? [03:55] 06. Je t'aime [03:15] 07. La plus belle des mers [02:26] 08. L'Amoureuse [02:19] 09. Coucher avec elle [02:30] 10. Le Port [02:11] 11. Je me souviens [02:02] 12. En sortant de l'école [02:42] 13. On frappe [00:59] 14. Paris at Night [01:28] 15. Quelqu'un [02:21] 16. Page d'écriture [02:42] 17. Le Jardin [01:09] 18. Le Miroir brisé [01:31] 19. Dans ma maison [04:34] 20. Trois petites notes de musique [02:59] 21. Il n'y a plus d'après [03:37] 22. Quand tu dors près de moi [02:45] 23. La Chanson de Bilbao [04:34]

A solid collection of Yves Montand recordings from the '60s (barring two from 1981), Master Serie stretches from accordion-heavy early-'60s standards like "Le Jazz et la Java" to the sprightly continental production behind his 1968 version of "A Bicyclette." The music is first-rate, though listeners looking for more information on what exactly made Montand the most entertaining, attractive singer of several eras may be disappointed by haphazard sequencing and the brief explanatory paragraph (in French, natch). ---John Bush, Rovi

This is a very good collection of Yves Montand songs. Many of them have very memorable melodies, which will remain in your head for days at a time ("Trois Petites Note De Musique," for example). Several are laid-back, sexually charged jazz tunes, featuring seductive saxophones and that ubiquitous instrument of French music, the accordion. Also very French are the lyrics for some of the songs here; we certainly wouldn't find a song about a cat ("La Chat De La Voisine") or a bicycle ("La Bicyclette") in the US, unless it is children's music. Montand might not have the best singing voice or vocal range, though his scratchy baritone lends itself well to this type of music. Although songs range from playful melodies to the brassy "Coucher Avec Elle,"

the overall mood of this collection suits an intimate evening of wine and dinner with a lover. For those more familiar with Montand as an actor rather than a singer, this music should come as a pleasant surprise. Some very good stuff. ---Sarah Bellum, amazon.com

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