

Eric Benet - The One (2012)

Written by bluelover

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01. Harriett Jones 02. News For You 03. Real Love 04. Runnin' 05. Redbone Girl (Feat. Lil Wayne) 06. Waitin' 07. Hope That It's You (Feat. Shaggy) 08. Gonna Be My Girl 09. Come Together 10. Muzik (Feat. India Arie) 11. Lay It Down 12. Here In My Arms (Lucia's Lullaby) 13. Come Home To Me (Feat. Jewel Anguay)

The prince of the soul scene, Eric Benet returns with a new album this year. So far, we've thoroughly enjoyed The One's first official single, Real Love, which picked up exactly where Lost in Time left off. However, this new bright and breezy modern soul swayer takes a different path, recalling the best of early eighties soul, albeit with a 2012 production slant. The chorus, with its almost cheesy riff on 'Swing low, Sweet Chariot', reminds me a touch of an old SoulCuts fave, Finis Henderson's Skip to My Lou, or a TV theme tune. Byron, it ain't, but Eric has the vocal chops, songwriting finesse and confidence to pull it off admirably. The midtempo groove bubbles along joyously thanks to a nice bit of sweet Moog bass and some assiduously arranged horns, perfectly complimented by Eric's impeccable vocals. Harriett Jones is one classy soul cut, indeed! Soul fans will lap up the timeless warmth of this track and it all augers well for The One, which drops on the 5th June. Bring on the summer! ---soulcuts.org

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