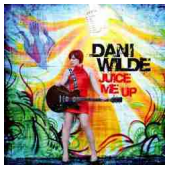
Dani Wilde – Juice Me Up (2012)



01. Don't Go Making Me Cry 02. Walk Out The Front Door 03. Let Me Show You 04. Crazy World 05. Who's Loving You 06. Mississippi Kisses 07. All I Need 08. The Burning Truth 09. Falling 10. Call On Me 11. Juice Me Up 12. Sweet Inspiration 13. I Will Be Waiting Dani Wilde – guitar, vocals Stuart Dixon – guitar Victoria Smith –bass Pete Wingfield – keyboards Roger Inniss – bass Will Wilde – harmonica Jamie Little – drums

Singer/guitarist Dani Wilde is firmly established in the leading pack of British blues ladies and is enjoying an ever-increasing and well-deserved popularity among UK enthusiasts. On this album, she is backed by an impressive array of musicians: Stuart Dixon on rhythm guitar, Roger Inniss and Victoria Smith on bass guitar, Jamie Little on drums, Pete Wingfield on keys and a horn section comprising Sid Gauld and Rob Hughes. Dani's brother, Will, also guests on harmonica on one track. There are thirteen tracks, all but two of which were written by Dani Wilde.

The album opens with the upbeat, funky “”Don't Go Making me Cry”, followed by the equally funky but slightly slower Jordan/Stock Bonnie Raitt favourite “Walk Out The front Door”. “Let me Show You” provides a joyful helping of rock 'n' roll, expertly driven by Jamie Little, which is considerably contrasted by the deep protest song, “Crazy World”. Smokey Robinson's excellent soulful ballad, “Who's Loving You?”, is a perfect vehicle for Dani Wilde's impressive vocals while the bouncing rocker “Mississippi Kisses” enjoys the aforementioned guest appearance of Will Wilde on harp.

A couple of love songs, “All I Need” and “Falling”, are separated by the funky-edged, politically-focused “The Burning Truth”. Yet another taste of funk is delivered by “Call On Me” before the rocking title song briefly ups the tempo in advance of the final two angst-ridden numbers, “Sweet Inspiration” and the bonus track, “I Will Be Waiting”, on which Dani Wilde's

vocals are accompanied by Stuart Dixon on acoustic guitar.

This is a well-constructed and enjoyable album, which is a credit to Dani Wilde's song-writing ability and Jamie Little's production skills. If there is a disappointment, it is that the hugely talented Stuart Dixon is used almost exclusively as a rhythm guitarist, which, with due deference to Dani's competence as a lead guitarist, seems to be a terrible waste. ---Lionel Ross, bluesinthenorthwest.com

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