

Gene Ammons – Funky (1957)

Wpisany przez bluesever

Sobota, 17 Październik 2009 21:50 - Zmieniony Sobota, 01 Listopad 2014 20:47

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1. *Funky (Burrell)* 9:01 2. *Pint Size (Mundy)* 12:23 3. *Stella By Starlight (Washington, Young)* 8:57 4. *King Size (Mundy)* 9:16 Personnel: Gene Ammons (tenor saxophone); Jackie McLean (alto saxophone); Art Farmer (trumpet); Mal Waldron (piano); Kenny Burrell (guitar); Doug Watkins (bass); Art Taylor (drums).

The Gene Ammons all-star jam session recordings of the 1950's are all quite enjoyable and this one is no exception. The great tenor is matched with trumpeter Art Farmer, altoist Jackie McLean, guitarist Kenny Burrell, pianist Mal Waldron, bassist Doug Watkins and drummer Art Taylor for lengthy versions of "Stella By Starlight," the Burrell blues "Funky" and a pair of numbers by arranger Jimmy Mundy. All of the horns plus Burrell and Waldron get ample solo space and Ammons seems to really inspire his sidemen on these soulful bop jams. ---Scott Yanow, Rovi

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