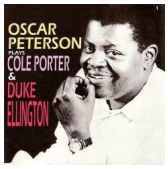
Oscar Peterson - Oscar Peterson Songbooks Etcetera (2005) CD1



Oscar Peterson Plays Cole Porter & Duke Ellington *01. What Is This Thing Called Love? (3:13) 02. Begin The Beguine (3:15) 03. I've Got You Under My Skin (2:32) 04. Love For Sale (3:15) 05. Let's Do It (Let's Fall In Love) (2:58) 06. I Love You (3:08) 07. So Near And Yet So Far (3:23) 08. Just One Of Those Things (3:05) 09. In The Still Of The Night (3:03) 10. Night And Day (3:44) 11. Ev'ry Time We Say Goodbye (3:29) 12. Anything Goes (3:00) 13. John Hardy's Wife (3:25) 14. Sophisticated Lady (3:02) 15. Things Ain't What They Used To Be (3:16) 16. Just A-Sittin' And A-Rockin' (3:45) 17. In A Mellow Tone (3:10) 18. I Got It Bad (And That Ain't Good) (3:15) 19. Prelude To A Kiss (3:21) 20. Cottontail (3:55) 21. Don't Get Around Much Anymore (4:02) 22. Take The 'A' Train (3:20) 23. Rockin' In Rhythm (2:57) 24. Do Nothin' Till You Hear From Me (2:54)*
Oscar Peterson - Organ, Piano Ray Brown - Bass Harry "Sweets" Edison - Trumpet Roy Eldridge - Trumpet Herb Ellis - Guitar Dizzy Gillespie - Trumpet Freddie Green - Guitar Bill Harris - Trombone J.C. Heard - Drums Billie Holiday - Vocals Barney Kessel - Guitar Gene Krupa - Drums Joe Newman Quartet - Trumpet Flip Phillips - Sax (Tenor) Paul Quinichette - Sax (Tenor) Buddy Rich - Drums Max Roach - Drums Ed Shaugnessy - Drums Charlie Shavers - Trumpet Alvin Stoller - Drums Ben Webster - Sax (Tenor) Lester Young - Sax (Tenor)

You'll love this. I was leery of what sounded to be too good to be true, but it appears to be so.

This is a lot of early 50's Oscar trio (Barney Kessel/ Herb Ellis on guitar) playing songbook standards for Norman Granz. Also included is one full disc of Billie Holiday material from 1952 and 1954 that I hadn't run into before. Disc 8 has the material from the verve album Diz and Getz, and a session with Lester Young from Nov, '52 that was new to me.

The sound quality is very good, in fact much more pleasing to my ear than the Rudy Van Gelder

remastered releases. I doubt they had studio tapes to work with but this sounds clean and relativly bright for early 50's material.

Packaging is pleasant and efficient (cardboard box/individual printed sleeves). The Cd's are packed, with the ones I've so far sampled containing two full albums each.

If you're a hard bop or free jazz guy, this will leave you cold. If you're here and like this sort of small session music from the early 50's, this is pretty good stuff -- and at [...], reasonably priced. --- Michael in Sac, amazon.com

These early "songbooks" didn't actually have "songbook" or "song book" in the title, just Oscar Peterson Plays [insert composer's name]. When nine of the composers (all but Vincent Youmans for some reason) were rerecorded in stereo in 1959 with OP's new trio, which had drums instead of guitar, they were actually called "Song Book" in the title. --- organissimo.org

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