

Ace Of Base-Platinum and Gold-2CD (2010)



Disc 1/2

1. *All That She Wants* 3:32
2. *The Sign* 3:10
3. *Beautiful Life* 3:39
4. *Life Is A Flower* 3:46
5. *Lucky Love* 2:54
6. *Always Have, Always Will* 3:45
7. *Wheel Of Fortune* 3:54
8. *Dont Turn Around* 3:49
9. *Cest La vie (Always 21)* 3:28
10. *Beautiful Morning* 3:01
11. *Happy Nation* 3:33
12. *Ordinary Day* 3:23
13. *Living In Danger* 3:12
14. *Cruel Summer* 3:35
15. *Unspeakable* 3:14
16. *Hallo Hallo* 2:52

Disc 2/2

1. *Wheel Of Fortune 2009* 3:45
2. *The Sign (The Remix)* 5:42
3. *Never Gonna Say Im Sorry (Sweetbox Funky Mix)* 6:48
4. *Cruel Summer (Soul Poets House Bust)* 3:43
5. *Life Is A Flower (Soul Poets Night Club Mix)* 5:19
6. *All That She Wants (Madness Version)* 3:34
7. *Lucky Love (Raggasol Version)* 2:55
8. *Beautiful Life (Lenny Bs House Of Joy Club Mix)* 6:57
9. *Happy Nation (Moody Gold Mix)* 4:01
10. *Cest La Vie (Always 21) (Remix)* 3:57
11. *Living In Danger (D-House Mix Short Version)* 4:04
12. *Travel To Romantis (Love To Infinity Master Mix)* 7:22
13. *Hallo Hallo (Dub)* 4:47

14. Megamix (Long Version) 7:21

125:02

The Platinum & Gold Collection series is a great idea. The biggest hits by Arista-BMG artists collected on one CD with a detailed biographical history of the group and chart positions for each of their hits.

Let's get the only "negative" out of the way from the get-go: the first beat of the group's biggest hit, "The Sign," is missing. This was also the case with the Arista-released "ACE OF BASE: Greatest Hits" which means they are using a master or submaster with a glitch.

That aside, you get to trace the history of the group - as it played out in the U.S. anyways... which is where Arista/BMG sold 10,000,000+ copies of Ace of Base albums from 1993-2001. The history of the group is the most comprehensive and thoughtful writeup on Ace of Base by an American music aficionado in years. We even get an acknowledgement of the mysterious circumstances surrounding the band's original lead singer, the blonde-haired Malin Berggren. Brunette, Jenny Berggren, now does a superb job of steering the group with their European music focus. Whether Ace of Base ever have another new release in the U.S. is up in the air.

In the interim, take a trip down memory lane and enjoy the highlights of Ace of Base's American run... mega hits like "All That She Wants," "The Sign," "Don't Turn Around," "Beautiful Life," and "Cruel Summer." And in between are the modest Top 100 hits like "Whenever You're Near Me," "Lucky Love," "Living in Danger" and also the songs that started the Ace of Base phenom - "Wheel of Fortune" and "Happy Nation." There are also some interesting versions of songs with notable remixes like the D-House mix of "Living in Danger," the Metro Mix of "Everytime it Rains" (Metro was the team that produced Cher's mega-hit "Believe") and the original mix of "Lucky Love" that was released in Europe. [Arista had chosen to originally released an acoustic version of this song on the groups "The Bridge" album in the United States]. --- Joseph Wierzbicki (Sacramento, CA United States)

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