

FABULOUS BRAZILIAN SONG PERFORMANCES

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS

By RBSProds
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Four and a half ENJOYABLE Stars!

Jazz flute legend Herbie Mann was once asked to describe Brazilian music: he used one word, "Paradise". On the 11th CD of her fabulous and adventurous career, Grammy-nominated jazz singer Karrin Allyson delivers Brazilian "paradise" in English & Brazilian Portuguese which she has recorded in before.

In the follow-up to the Grammy-nominated *Footprints* which focused on classic jazz, including a great take on Wayne Shorter, she brilliantly gives us an entire CD dealing with Brazil, delivering wonderful renditions of Brazilian classics sung in both languages.

It's probably fitting with any Brazilian-centric focus that the long shadows of super-composer 'Tom' Jobim and super-diva Elis Regina are cast across major parts of this CD, as well as a slice of Stan Getz-Joao Gilberto, who jump-started the U.S Brazilian craze in the 60s, and the famed composer Edu Lobo.

The 'best of the best' begins with a stunningly beautiful "Correnteza" (Rapids) showing off Jobim's characteristic 'in and out of tempo' movements with Ms Allyson's voice a combination of vulnerability, sensitivity, and sensuality: precisely what is needed with these songs. "Só Tinha Que Ser Com Você" (It Had To Be With You) & "Estrada do Sol" (Path of the Sun) follow Elis Regina's trajectory accurately and each song comes up a winner, as is the case with "Pra Dizer Adeus" (Time To Say Goodbye) by another legendary Brazilian maestro, Edu Lobo.

"Desafinado" (Slightly Out of Tune) is pure joy with it's English lyrics and odd-meter breaks giving it distinction, as is "Double Rainbow" (aka Raining On The Rosebush). Just wonderful singing!!

"Vivo Sohando" (Living On Dreams, aka Dreamer) is pure swinging beauty, aided by the vocal/guitar doubling and a great David Finck bass solo. A couple of the English-driven lyrics take us away from Brazil, but not for long. "É Com Esse Que Eu Vou" is another Regina song and Karrin invests a lot of herself to create a different vibe.

To sell these songs in a foreign language, as well as English, the singer must have a believable point of view from which the song is delivered and Ms Allyson has found a winner of an approach. Karrin Allyson is an amazing singer who has delivered a very singular and enjoyable CD which goes for the heart of Brazil. Kudos to the other excellent backup musicians, particularly Steve Nelson the vibist who adds vital tone coloring, Gil Goldstein's accordian, Rod Freeman's guitar & drummer Todd Strait, as well as Portuguese coach Lúcia Guimarães who is singled out for praise.

Highly Recommended!

I'll be recommending it to my friends in Brazil, it's THAT good, IMHO.

Four and a half WONDERFUL Stars.



(This review is based on an iTunes digital download.) View Original Article Here:
http://www.amazon.com/Imagina-Songs-Brasil-Karrin-Allyson/dp/B0013F3YFO/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=music&qid=1206629211&sr=1-1