## Eva Cassidy - Eva By Heart (1997)

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1. I Know You By Heart 2. Time Is A Healer 3. Wayfaring Stranger 4. Wade In The Water 5. Blues In The Night 6. Songbird 7. Need Your Love So Bad 8. Say Goodbye 9. Nightbird 10. Waly Waly 11. How Can I Keep From Singing? Eva Cassidy - Cello, Guitars, Keyboards, Strings, Vocals, Wah Wah Guitar Chris Biondo - Bass, Guitar (Acoustic), Producer Chuck Brown - Vocals (Background) Mark Carson - Piano, Vocals (Background) Dan Cassidy - Violin Doug Elliot - Trombone Anthony Flowers - Organ John Gillespie - Organ, Vocals (Background) Keith Grimes - Guitar (Electric) Dan Haverstock - Trombone William Ju Ju House - Drums Raice McLeod - Drums Larry Melton - Bass Leigh Pilzer - Sax (Baritone), Sax (Tenor) Mike Stein - Violin Karen Van Sant - Violin Chris Walker - Trumpet Lenny Williams -Keyboards, Organ, Strings Kent Wood – Piano

An album both haunting and inspiring, tragic and mesmerizing, Eva by Heart was the singer's only true studio album, and hints at the promise which was never to materialize due to her early demise from cancer. Five of the songs on this set ("I Know You by Heart," "Time Is a Healer," "Wayfaring Stranger," "Wade in the Water," and "Songbird") appear on her Songbird collection. The import version of Eva by Heart contains an extra track, "Dark End of the Street," which does not appear on the American version, or on any of her albums for that matter. The styles range from folksy (the sweet "I Know You by Heart"), to soulful ("Time Is a Healer"), to introspective ("Say Goodbye," "Waly Waly"), to downright rousing ("Wayfaring Stranger," "How Can I Keep From Singing?") and bluesy ("Blues in the Night."). Eva's voice always sounds crystalline, and her interpretive skills are unmatched (as evidenced on her lovely take of Christine McVie's "Songbird"). The woman had the power to transform a standard or a traditional into her own song, and she could belt out the blues just as good as anybody else (take one listen to "Blues in the Night" or her duet with Chuck Brown, "Need Your Love So Bad"). This disc, as with any of her works, and the posthumous fame she achieved but never sought, stand as testimony as to how true artistry, despite whatever circumstances, has the capacity to transcend, and her story should prove inspiring to any truly talented and struggling musician out in the world. --- Jose F. Promis, allmusic.com

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