Ray Charles & Betty Carter - Dedicated To You (1961)



- 1. "Ev'ry Time We Say Goodbye" (Cole Porter) 4:41
- 2. "You and I" (Meredith Willson) 3:28
- 3. Intro: "Goodbye"/"We'll Be Together Again" (Gordon Jenkins)/(Carl Fischer, Frankie Laine) 3:20
- 4. "People Will Say We're in Love" (Oscar Hammerstein II, Richard Rodgers) 2:51
- 5. "Cocktails for Two" (Sam Coslow, Arthur Johnston) 3:15
- 6. "Side by Side" (Harry M. Woods, Gus Kahn) 2:23
- 7. "Baby, It's Cold Outside" (Frank Loesser) 4:10
- 8. "Together" (Lew Brown, Buddy De Sylva, Ray Henderson) 1:35
- 9. "For All We Know" (J. Fred Coots, Sam M. Lewis) 3:44
- 10. "Takes Two to Tango" (Al Hoffman, Dick Manning) 3:22
- 11."Alone Together" (Howard Dietz, Arthur Schwartz) 4:45
- 12."Just You, Just Me" (Jesse Greer, Raymond Klages) 2:04
- 13."But On the Other Hand Baby" (Charles, Percy Mayfield) 3:11
- 14."I Never See Maggie Alone" (Harry Tilsley, Everett Lynton) 5:37
- 15."I Like to Hear It Sometime" (Jodie Edwards) 2:50

Personnel: Ray Charles (piano, vocals); Marty Paich (arranger, conductor); Bill Pittman (guitar); Hank Crawford (alto saxophone); David "Fathead" Newman (tenor saxophone); Leroy Cooper (baritone saxophone); Martin Banks, John Hunt (trumpet); Edgar Willis (bass); Irving Cottler (drums.)

Ray Charles's decision to cut an album of duets with then-rising jazz singer Betty Carter defines the phrase "unerring instinct." Charles responds to Carter's gorgeous voice and compelling melodic changes with some of his softest singing; you might say that this already masterful conduit of emotion got in touch with his feminine side on this 1961 date. The opening and closing cuts of the girls'-names theme album Dedicated to You, another '61 LP that fills out this 78-minute disc, demonstrate Brother Ray's touch for transforming unlikely material into expressions of his own funky essence. His amused big-band celebrations of "Hardhearted Hannah" and "Sweet Georgia Brown" sit alongside sublime portraits of "Stella by Starlight" and

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"Ruby" on an underappreciated set that's a perfect match for the Charles-Carter sides. --Rickey Wright, Editorial Review

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