

## Randy Crawford - Everything Must Change (1976)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 28 February 2018 13:27 -

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1. *Everything Must Change (Live)* 4:52 2. *I Let You Walk Away* 3:20 3. *I'm Easy* 3:41 4. *I Had To See You On More Time* 3:40 5. *I've Never Been To Me* 3:32 6. *Don't Let Me Down* 3:56 7. *Something So Right* 4:12 8. *Soon As I Touched Him* 3:11 9. *Only Your Love Song Lasts* 4:06 10. *Gonna Give Lovin' A Try* 3:24

Acoustic Guitar – Larry Carlton Alto Saxophone – Dick Spencer, Jerome Richardson Bass [Fender], Acoustic Bass – John Williams Bass – Robert Popwell Jr., Anthony Jackson Bass Trombone – Maurice Spears Clarinet [Baritone], Flute – Bill Hood Drums – Ralph Humphrey, James Gadson, Rick Marotta Electric Guitar – Jay Graydon, Eric Gale, Hugh McCracken Flugelhorn – Hugh Masekela Flute, Tenor Saxophone – Lew Tabackin, Ray Pizzi Guitar – Mundell Lowe, Dean Parks, Larry Carlton Harmonica – Hugh McCracken Keyboards – Joe Sample, Pat Rebillot, Joe Sample Percussion – Ralph MacDonald Piano – Dave Grusin Tenor Saxophone – Harold Vick Trombone – Britt Woodman, Dick Nash, Garnett Brown, Jack Raines Trumpet, Flugelhorn – Bill Berry, Bobby Bryant, Buddy Childers, Snooky Young The World Jazz All Star Band

Randy Crawford's first solo album, *Everything Must Change* was produced by Stewart Levine. Like the albums that followed, it's a virtual masterpiece; the studio was crawling with heavyweights, and Crawford always brings out the best in everyone involved. Her version of "I've Never Been to Me" bests Charlene's original, and even Dennis Edwards' emotional ordeal. The title track represents nearly five minutes of social drama, and she makes "I'm Easy," "I Had to See Him One More Time," and "Don't Let Me Down" so personal you think she's singing about you. ---Andrew Hamilton, AllMusic Review

When I worked for Reckless Records in Berwick Street in Central London – Randy Crawford albums were pretty much a no-no – they had little value – and few wanted them. But in the last

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decade or so - as Soul Boys of all colours have started to look back to those heady days of the Seventies and early Eighties – albums by artists like Patrice Rushen and Candi Staton are getting revaluated all the time. Fans are veering away from the obvious hits and seeking out those tunes hidden in the grooves (both funk and ballad) - and Randy Crawford's Warner Brothers output is the same. Her debut opens with a destroyer – one of two 'live' tracks done in front of a wildly appreciative Jazz audience and featuring The World Jazz All Star Band. First up is the gorgeous Bernard Ighner ballad "Everything Must Change" which is practically royalty when it comes to cover versions you must do for Soul singers. It's the kind of hurting haunting melody that virtually screams the word Soul. It first turned up on a Quincy Jones album in 1974 – so Crawford was fast off the mark. The production values are fabulous - warm and tender – and it opens the whole proceedings on a real high (Lyrics from it title this review).

The other live cut is actually the album finisher - a lovely take on Nat Adderley's "Gonna Give Lovin' A Try". In between are a plethora of covers – some like the funky up "Don't Let Me Down" by The Beatles sort of work - but her take on Paul Simon's "Something So Right" loses the delicacy that made the CBS original so special. Best of all however is the mid-tempo ballad "I Had To See You One More Time" with lyrics like "Start all your sweet talk...you do so well..." - nice. ---Mark Barry, amazon.co.uk

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