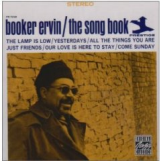


Booker Ervin - Song Book (1964)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 12 January 2011 11:55 - Last Updated Saturday, 02 August 2014 14:47

Booker Ervin - Song Book (1964)



1. *Lamp Is Low*
2. *Come Sunday*
3. *All the Things You Are* [play](#)
4. *Just Friends*
5. *Yesterdays*
6. *Love Is Here to Stay*

Personnel:

Booker Ervin (tenor saxophone);
Tommy Flanagan (piano);
Richard Davis (bass);
Alan Dawson (drums).

"The Song Book" was Booker Ervin's answer to the "Ballads" album trend of the early 60s. This album exclusively features jazz standards, and while Ervin plays beautifully on the ballads "Come Sunday" and "Yesterdays," he also tackles "The Lamp Is Low," "All The Things You Are," "Just Friends," and "Our Love Is Here To Stay" with his trademark aggressive fervor, and soulful meets avant-garde style. On "Song Book," Ervin is joined by frequent collaborators Richard Davis on bass and Alan Dawson on drums, and is joined on piano by Tommy Flanagan, with whom he recorded only this once. I find Flanagan's straight-ahead approach more suited to this outing than Ervin's usual piano partner of this period, Jaki Byard, who would have provided a more modern, exploratory feel which I don't think would have meshed as well. In all, "The Song Book" is another great piece of jazz literature from Booker Ervin. -- Michael B. Richman

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