

Marcus Miller - Tutu Revisited (feat. Christian Scott) [2011]

Written by bluesever

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CD 1: 1. *Tomaas* (12:13) 2. *Backyard Ritual* (8:58) 3. *Splatch* (14:25) 4. *Portia* (9:20) 5. *Jean-Pierre* (13:23) 6. *Aida* (6:18) [play](#) 7. *In a Sentimental Mood* (9:14) CD 2: 1. *Hannibal* (11:28) 2. *Don't Lose Your Mind* (18:33) 3. *Tutu* (11:25) 4. *Full Nelson / Perfect Way* (8:15) 5. *Human Nature / So What* (13:40)

Personnel: Marcus Miller - bass, bass clarinet Christian Scott - trumpet Alex Han - saxophone Federico Gonzalez Pena - keyboards Ronald Bruner, Jr. - drums

Whenever I think of Marcus - my all-time music hero - I always get in a sentimental mood. I always feel like I am walking, drifting in an endless dream that has no heavenly destination because the musical journey that he takes you on is paradise itself! And *Tutu Revisited* is a magical carpet ride of a journey. Whilst many musicians are trying to revisit classical musical eras of yesteryears and failing miserably, Marcus - as always - succeeds and excels. He makes old music sound brand new. Like you have never heard it before. He always manages to deliver killer funky riffs and the finest example of this is "Splatch" probably the funkier track on the album. Marcus also delves into a bit of reggae vibe with "Don't Lose Your Mind" proving once again that he has the midas touch and can do just about anything musically. But the ultimate track on this album is the best ever and finest ever rendition of an ageless classic "In A Sentimental Mood" and it does exactly what it says on the tin. It is so beautiful, it is like a dream within a dream.

Marcus isn't just a bass guitarist, he is a bass clarinetist and he gives one of his finest performances on this rarely heard and used instrument. In my opinion, it should be heard more often! Marcus's bass clarinet is perfectly complimented with a superb performance from a young alto saxophonist Alex Han - who is most definitely one to watch out for! Thanks Marcus for this latest offering of paradise. It is worth every golden coin I have hiding in my treasure chest!
---Hannah Trinnaman

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This two-CD set is a better bet than last year's *A Night in Monte Carlo*: it celebrates the same creative funkiness of the mid-80s Miles Davis bands that bass guitar virtuoso and composer/arranger Miller had a big hand in, but here in more focused form, without symphony orchestras or singers. The canny Miller still goes for a soul-pop bravura and some technical posturings Miles would have avoided (hard to imagine the Prince of Darkness doing anything as uncool as swapping quotes from Sonny Rollins's *St Thomas* with his sidemen, or letting his bass guitarist acknowledge a sharp sax solo with a congratulatory sliding-note whoop) but there's a lot of very inventive jazz-making here, particularly from the gifted young partnership of trumpeter Christian Scott and saxophonist Alex Han. Powerful 80s Miles themes - notably *Splatch*, *Portia*, *Tutu*, *Full Nelson* and *Human Nature* - mingle with earlier jazz landmarks, like a tender bass clarinet account of *In a Sentimental Mood*, and a brisk *So What* that includes Miller playing the famous Miles 1959 solo as a bass guitar feature. It's as much a general jazz celebration for funk audiences as it is about Miles alone, but Christian Scott is the ideal bearer of the late trumpeter's legacy. ---John Fordham

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