Barbara Rosene - All My Life (2005)



1. All My Life 2. Till Then 3. Stairway to the Stars 4. (How Little It Matters) How Little We Know 5. Fools Rush In 6. You'd Be So Nice to Come Home To 7. Blame It on My Youth 8. Until the Real Thing Comes Along 9. Trust in Me 10. You Are Too Beautiful 11. What Is There to Say 12. It Could Happen to You 13. I'll Look Around Personnel: Barbara Rosene (vocals); Peter Martinez (clarinet, tenor saxophone); Simon Wettenhall (trumpet, flugelhorn); Tom Roberts (piano); Kevin Dorn (drums).

On her first two recordings, Deep Night and Ev`rything`s Made for Love, both made for the Stomp Off label, Barbara Rosene showed how comfortable and natural she is singing material from the 1920s. Rather than copying her predecessors, she sounds very much like herself. All My Life moves Rosene up to the 1930s, `40s, and `50s, displaying her talents as a creative and warm swing singer. Her beautiful voice perfectly fits the material, as does her subtle improvising. Backed by a fine jazz quintet that includes trumpeter Simon Wettenhall, Peter Martinez on clarinet and tenor, and pianist Tom Roberts, Rosene makes the vintage material sound fresh, lively, and sometimes touching. Among the highlights are such superior songs as "Till Then," "Fools Rush In," "Trust in Me," and "It Could Happen to You." While listening to these tunes, it becomes clear that Barbara Rosene really knows the meaning behind the lyrics, and she sometimes brings out hidden beauty in even the most familiar songs. Even on the sadder ballads, All My Life is a musical joy. It is highly recommended. ---Scott Yanow

Barbara Rosene has an ideal voice for singing songs of the 1920's and 30's. Although she often sings the popular songs of the 20's and early 30's (in my opinion, better than Annette Hanshaw or Ruth Etting), her laid-back, mellow voice does just as well with these light jazz/romantic songs of the 30's and 40's. Her rendition of "You Are Too Beautiful" is plain awesome. She has

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no intonation, phrases her songs meaningfully, and never over-exaggerates. She's just the best. --- Edward J. Vasicek, amazon.com

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