

Larry Willis - This Time The Dream's On Me (2012)

Written by bluesever

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Larry Willis - This Time The Dream's On Me (2012)



01. *This Time the Dream's on Me* 5:49 02. *Sanctuary* 7:27 03. *True Love* 6:17 04. *Lazy Afternoon* 7:21 05. *A Single Petal of a Rose* 4:47 06. *Blues for Marco* 5:27 07. *It Could Happen to You* 7:07 08. *Lotus Blossom* 3:11 09. *Silly Blues* 5:14 10. *My Ship* 8:59 Larry Willis - piano solo

Larry Willis mixes standards, jazz classics, and potent originals on this solo piano release. The sessions have a late-night, ruminative flavor, starting with a loping take of "This Time the Dream's On Me." His shimmering rendition of "Lazy Afternoon" opens with a spacious improvised introduction, while he makes great use of space in his interpretation of this ballad. The Ellington-Strayhorn songbook is represented by the former's whispering "The Single Petal of a Rose" and the latter's haunting "Lotus Blossom," both played with restraint, as these timeless pieces require few embellishments. The pianist's originals are just as impressive. "Sanctuary" was written for a project that included strings, though his moving solo piano arrangement is no less moving, suggesting an idyllic, isolated beach hideaway on a clear summer afternoon. "Blues for Marco," named for his co-producer, has a whimsical air, while "Silly Blues" starts like a ballad but quickly shifts to a laid-back, closing-hour blues. Recorded over two days on a top-notch Fazioli grand piano, this solo piano CD is easily among Larry Willis' best recordings. ---Ken Dryden, Rovi

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