Written by bluesever Friday, 17 October 2014 15:53 - Last Updated Friday, 17 October 2014 15:56

Bill Evans & Jim Hall - Undercurrent 1962 (2002)



1.My Funny Valentine (Richard Rodgers) 2.I Hear a Rhapsody (Jack Baker, George Fragos, Dick Gasparre) 3.Dream Gypsy (Judith Veveers) 4.Romain (Jim Hall) 5.Skating in Central Park (John Lewis) 6.Darn That Dream (Jimmy Van Heusen) 7.Stairway to the Stars (Matty Malneck, Frank Signorelli) 8.I'm Getting Sentimental over You (George Bassman) 9.My Funny Valentine (Richard Rodgers) (alternate take) 10.Romain (Jim Hall) (alternate take) Jim Hall - guitar Bill Evans – piano

Other than four piano solos from April 4, 1962, this set was pianist Bill Evans' first recordings after a hiatus caused by bassist Scott LaFaro's tragic death in a car accident. The first of two meetings on record in a duo format with guitarist Jim Hall, the collaborations are often exquisite. Both Evans and Hall had introspective and harmonically advanced styles along with roots in hard-swinging bebop. There is more variety than expected on the fine set with some cookers, ballads, waltzes, and even some hints at classical music. Recommended. [Some reissues include four bonus tracks, including two alternate takes and previously unheard versions of "Stairway to the Stars" and "I'm Getting Sentimental Over You."] ---Scott Yanow, Rovi

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