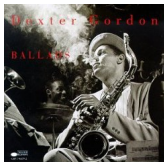


Dexter Gordon – Ballads (1991)

Written by bluesever

Friday, 02 July 2010 16:19 - Last Updated Saturday, 06 September 2014 15:36

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1. "Darn That Dream" [7:32]
2. "Don't Explain" [6:07]
3. "I'm A Fool To Want You" [6:45]
4. "Ernie's Tune" [4:17]
5. "You've Changed" [7:28]
6. "Willow Weep For Me" [8:49]
7. "Guess I'll Hand My Tears Out" [5:23]
8. "Body And Soul" [17:00]

Personnel:

Dexter Gordon (tenor saxophone);

Freddie Hubbard, Donald Byrd (trumpet);

Sonny Clark, Barry Harris, Bud Powell, George Cables,

Horace Parlan, Kenny Drew (piano);

Neils-Henning Orsted Pedersen, Paul Chambers, Rufus Reid,

Butch Warren, Bob Cranshaw, George Tucker, Pierre Michelot (bass);

Billy Higgins, Philly Joe Jones, Kenny Clarke, Art Taylor,

Al Harewood, Eddie Gladden (drums).

Along with Gene Ammons and Stanley Turrentine, Dexter Gordon was one of the top ballad players of the '60s. Having already made his name in the bebop era and as an expatriate in Europe, Gordon returned to the States to record a series of fine Blue Note discs during the first half of the decade. This edition of the label's Ballads series features Gordon at his peak and in the company of some of hard bop's best players. Whether melding nicely with trumpeter Donald Byrd from a Paris date in 1964 ("Darn That Dream") or locking in with the stellar rhythm section of Sonny Clark, Butch Warren, and Billy Higgins ("Don't Explain"), Gordon delivers his almost sleepy and smoke-filled solos with regal grace. The same can also be said of the rest of this incredible program, including a latter-day live cut from 1978. A perfect set for those in need of a

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provocative after-hours session in front of the stereo. ---Stephen Cook, Rovi

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