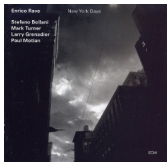


Enrico Rava – New York Days (2009)

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 12 August 2010 14:21 - Last Updated Wednesday, 15 October 2014 15:12

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01. *Lulu* (9:34)
02. *Improvisation I* (4:24)
03. *Outsider* (6:17)
04. *Certi Angoli Segreti* (10:56)
05. *Interiors* (10:42)
06. *Thank You, Come Again* (7:06)
07. *Count Dracula* (3:21)
08. *Luna Urbana* (7:40)
09. *Improvisation II* (7:52)
10. *Lady Orlando* (5:32)
11. *Blancasnow* (4:22)

Personnel:

Enrico Rava (trumpet);
Mark Turner (tenor saxophone);
Stefano Bollani (piano);
Larry Grenadier (double bass);
Paul Motian (drums).

Enrico Rava, the Miles Davis-inspired Italian trumpet star and composer, plays with a pedigree transatlantic band on a 2008 New York set devoted to his mix of smoky love-song melodies and startling eruptions. All the pieces are his, save for two slowly weaving on-the-fly group improvisations. Rava is joined by regular pianist Stefano Bollani, with the American contingent represented by Brad Mehldau bassist Larry Grenadier, percussion magician Paul Motian and the sophisticated 1950s Cool-meets-Coltrane tenor saxophonist Mark Turner. Rava and Bollani's delicate agenda of rich tone-colours, illuminated by lightning-strikes of urgent sound, dominates the music. Though there are sporadic diversions into bebop at an uptempo sprint (*Outsider*), or a mid-tempo canter with hints of Thelonious Monk and Chet Baker/Gerry Mulligan

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(Thank You Come Again), jazzers shouldn't jump to the conclusion that a rhythm section this hip means all that much grooving. But Motian's dazzling drumming always swings. Bollani's piano lines glisten over his springy left-hand chording, and the two horn players - Turner often murmuring around the lower register, Rava splitting long sounds with taut upper-end ascents - both contrast sharply, and intertwine like intimates. --- John Fordham, The Guardian

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