Written by bluesever Sunday, 08 February 2015 16:49 -

Dominic Frontiere and His Orchestra - Love Eyes The Moods of Romance (2012)



1 Jealous 3:50 2 Sultry 4:10 3 Innocent 3:00 4 Fickle 2:24 5 Wistful 3:20 6 Joyous 2:36 7 Teen-age 2:48 8 Sensuous 3:04 9 Beatnik 2:39 10 Lonely 2:59 11 Childish 3:35 12 Sophisticated 2:59

Dominic Frontiere (17 June 1931, New Haven, Connecticut) grew up in a musical family, learning several instruments before adopting the accordion as his main focus. He proved a prodigy, and was travelling to New York for lessons with accordion virtuoso Joseph Biviano at 7 and performing solo at Carnegie Hall at the age of 12. From an early age, its interest in music went beyond just performing, though, and he studied classical music, arranging, and composition through high school and after!

He joined Horace Heidt's big band in 1949, replacing accordion star Dick Contino and becoming lead arranger as well. He left Heidt in 1952 and moved to Hollywood, where he studied with Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco at UCLA and with violinist and studio conductor Felix Slatkin. Frontiere was then, taken under the wing of Alfred Newman, music director at 20th Century-Fox studios, and his brother, famous film composer Lionel Newman, who soon had him working on a variety of scoring jobs.

Frontiere experimented several novelties from his studio work, one was an album for Columbia, Pagan Festival, that is now recalled fondly as one of the prime examples of true exotica. One suspects that he ran Yma Sumac's albums for a few spins while conceiving on the pieces on this work, which feature titles as 'Jaguar God', 'Venus Girl', with subtitles recalling Mayan or Inca language, as Ixtab, and Tampu-Anca.

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Dominic has concentrated on composing for films/television since the early 60's. His scoring credits include such films as Hang 'Em High, Incubus, Chisum, The Train Robbers, Brannigan and The Stunt Man. On television, he composed the theme for the aliens-are-among-us series, The Invaders, science fiction The Outer Limits, and also The Fugitive, The Flying Nun, Branded, Movin' On, amongst many others.

Along with Art Van Damme and Johnny Hamlin, he ranks among the leading (and only) jazz accordionists, with an active career until the 90's. Recently many of its soundtracks were available in cd re-releases. --- interstellarmedium.me

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