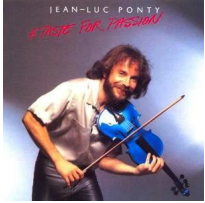


Jean-Luc Ponty - A Taste For Passion (1979)

Written by bluesever

Sunday, 18 October 2009 14:12 - Last Updated Saturday, 06 December 2014 20:09

Jean-Luc Ponty - A Taste For Passion (1979)



01. Stay With Me 02. Sunset Drive 03. Dreamy Eyes 04. Beach Girl 05. Taste For Passion, A 06. Life Cycles 07. Reminiscence 08. Give Us A Chance 09. Obsession 10. Farewell

Jean-Luc Ponty – 5-string electric violin, violin, piano, keyboards Ralphie Armstrong – fretless bass Joaquin Lievano – guitar, guitar synth Jamie Glaser – guitar Casey Scheuerell – drums, percussion Allan Zavod – keyboards, synthesizer

Despite the title, this release is more subdued than its predecessors on the shelves, more tightly controlled, more conventional in instrumentation. Jean-Luc Ponty temporarily pulls back on electronic display for its own sake, even permitting some acoustic instruments to take the fore, and the recorded sound is drier and less lustrous. Nevertheless, Ponty's urbane Euro-sensibility can still be felt strongly in these carefully conceived and "orchestrated" jazz-rock compositions for his six-piece group. "Beach Girl," with its locomotive-driven chorus surrounded by folk-like passages, is the most memorable tune of the lot. If you can overlook the dated timbres of the ARP (a long-defunct company) synthesizers and the flat acoustics that place this music squarely within its decade, this music can still give pleasure to today's CD fans. --Richard S. Ginell, Rovi

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