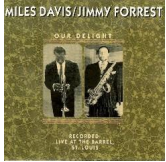


Miles Davis & Jimmy Forrest - Our Delight (1952/1992)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 23 October 2019 13:46 -

Miles Davis & Jimmy Forrest - Our Delight (1952/1992)



1 *Ray's Idea* 8:30 2 *A Night In Tunisia* 8:25 3 *Wee Dot* 10:50 4 *What's New* 7:28 5 *Perdido* 9:21 6 *All The Things You Are* 10:07 7 *Our Delight* 7:22 8 *Lady Bird* 6:42 9 *Oh Lady, Be Good* 4:20 Bass – Johnny Mixon Drums – Oscar Oldham Piano – Charles Fox Tenor Saxophone – Jimmy Forrest Trumpet – Miles Davis Recorded in performance at 'The Barrel', St. Louis, c. 1952.

In 1992, Prestige/Fantasy combined both of Miles Davis' Live at the Barrel LPs on a 74-minute CD titled *Our Delight*. For hardcore collectors, the release of *Our Delight* was very good news. However, there are various reasons why this CD can hardly be called essential. The performances, which find Davis and tenor saxman Jimmy Forrest joining forces in a St. Louis club called the Barrel, are competent and likable but not mind-blowing. And the sound quality, although listenable, is not great (by early-'50s hi-fi standards). So when you add those things up, there is no way that *Our Delight* should be recommended to anyone who isn't a serious collector. Nonetheless, these performances are not without historic value. Davis and Forrest (who are joined by a St. Louis rhythm section that consists of pianist Charles Fox, bassist John Mixon, drummer Oscar Oldham, and an unknown percussionist) did not play together very much, and *Our Delight* gives listeners a rare chance to hear them playing side by side on familiar standards like "All the Things You Are," Tadd Dameron's "Our Delight," and Dizzy Gillespie's "A Night in Tunisia." The CD also contains a dusky performance of the ballad "What's New," although ballads are not a high priority. And the type of funky, groove-oriented soul-jazz and honker music that Forrest was famous for is excluded; the musicians don't perform "Night Train" (the saxman's biggest hit), and they stick to a bop/standards program. *Our Delight* certainly isn't bad, but it doesn't deserve five-star praise either (unlike much of the bop and cool work that Davis offered in the '50s). Even so, collectors will find *Our Delight* to be interesting -- shortcomings, flaws, and all. ---Alex Henderson, AllMusic Review

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