

The Danilo Rea Trio – Romantica (2004)

Written by bluesever

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1. Reginella 2. Munastero 'E Santa Chiara 3. Tu Si' 'Na Cosa Grande 4. Core 'Ngrato 5. Santa Lucia 6. Che Cosa C' 'e 7. Torna A Surriento 8. Parlami D'amore Mari 'u 9. Metti Una Sera A Cena 10. Resta Cu'mme 11. Un Giorno Dopo L'altro 12. Se Stasera Sono Qui 13. O' Surdato 'Nnamurato 14. Il Silenzio Danilo Rea - piano Ares Tavalazzi - bass Roberto Gatto – drums

Rea is a player who is capable of performing across the broadest of musical categories, from classical music to jazz and pop music. As a young disciple of the masters and child of the 60s and 70s, Rea's influences extend across a wider range of music than Sellani and even Pieranunzi, although the latter certainly shows the same sparks of modernism and boldness at times that characterizes Rea's work. Rea is certainly more into the modern songbook, but still retains the same attention to melody and the harmonic sensibilities of his masters, never straying too far out of the box. His discography highlights the variety in his work, both in terms of his musical breadth as well as the settings -- solos, duos, trios, and a quintet are all a part of the collection I have of his music.

"Romantica" (Venus Records 2004) is a piano trio, with Ares Tavalazzi on bass and Gatto again on drums. My Italian might be bad, but I cannot read Japanese at all, so the liner notes are useless. But the music is magnifico -- here we have jazz interpretations of what I believe are Italian favorites, of whom I only recognize Ennio Morricone's name. What I do know is that the melodies are all as romantic as advertised in the title, Rea brings to each his full bag of expressive chords, runs, and range of dynamics. Gatto keeps the tempo, adds color, and introduces several of the tunes with the snare and cymbals, that then underlie the melodies. On "Munastero 'E Santa Clara" plays a bongo-like rhythm that adds sparkle to the tune, the second on the disc, and on Tu Si' Na Cosa Grande he maintains a latin beat for Rea's lilting tune. These sound like the "Great Italian Songbook" as sung by Sergio Franchi, Mario Lanza, and others. ---ajazzlistenersthoughts.blogspot.com

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