

Helen Carr - Why Do I Love You (1955)

Written by bluesever

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1 *Be Careful It's My Heart* 1:55 2 *My Kind Of Trouble Is You* 3:54 3 *Lonely Street* 2:20 4 *You're Getting To Be A Habit With Me* 2:22 5 *Bye Bye Baby* 3:34 6 *Then You've Never Been Blue* 2:29 7 *Summer Night* 2:19 8 *Got A Date With An Angel* 1:59 9 *Why Do I Love You* 3:41 10 *Do I Worry* 2:36 11 *I've Got A Feelin' You're Foolin'* 2:26 12 *I've Got A Feelin' You're Foolin'* 2:03 Acoustic Bass – Red Mitchell Guitar – Howard Roberts Lead Vocals – Helen Carr Trumpet – Cappy Lewis

The title *Why Do I Love You* speaks volumes about the emotional context of Helen Carr's approach -- equal parts heartbreak, frustration, and resignation, her tough but tender vocals capture the dark side of romance at its most affecting. This Bethlehem session features backing from the likes of Red Mitchell, Howard Roberts, and Cappy Lewis, and their nuanced contributions further underscore the intimacy of Carr's performance. The song selection is also excellent, forgoing overworked standards in favor of more apropos material like "Lonely Street," "My Kind of Trouble Is You," and "Then You've Never Been Blue." ---Jason Ankeny, AllMusic Review

A real gem from the glory days of the Bethlehem Records jazz scene! Although the Bethlehem label had some great success with some of its vocal stars – like Chris Connor or Mel Torme – they also had a strong commitment to jazz vocals that stretched way past the big names, to include many excellent under-recognized singers, like Helen Carr. This rare album from the mid 50s is a perfect example of the label's commitment at work – as it features Carr in a beautifully no-nonsense setting, with spare instrumental backing by just a trio – Howard Roberts on guitar, Red Mitchell on bass, and Cappy Lewis on trumpet – a really unusual mix that helps make the album something special. The tracks are very well-selected – and move past the usual nuggets

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found on lackluster vocal jazz sessions, to include nice little tunes like "Symphony", "Lonely Street", "My Kind Of Trouble Is You", "Do I Worry", and "Then You've Never Been Blue". A nice lost vocal jazz treasure! ---dustygroove.com

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