

Cat Stevens - Izitso (1977)

Written by bluelover

Monday, 31 May 2010 22:01 - Last Updated Sunday, 14 August 2016 12:55

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01. *(Remember The Days Of The) Old Schoolyard* - 2:43
02. *Life* - 4:53
03. *Killin' Time* - 3:29
04. *Kypros* - 3:09
05. *Bonfire* - 4:07
06. *(I Never Wanted) To Be A Star* - 3:00
07. *Crazy* - 3:31
08. *Sweet Jamaica* - 3:27
09. *Was Dog A Doughnut?* (Cat Stevens, Jean Roussel, Bruce Lynch) - 4:12
10. *Child For A Day* (David Gordon, Paul Travis) - 4:21

Personnel:

- Cat Stevens - polymoog (01,02,03,04,05,07), piano (01), celeste (01), percussion (01,02,04,05,07,08), string arrangement (01), classical guitar (02), Ovation guitar (02), bouzouki (02,04), Baldwin electric harpsichord (02,06,07), Yamaha GX1 (02,04,05), brass arrangement (03,05), grand piano (04,06), fender rhodes piano (04), ARP synthesizer (04,07), Yamaha E5AR organ (04), electric guitar (05,07), Wurlitzer electric piano (06), electric piano (08), drums (09), acoustic guitar (10), lead vocals
- Jean Roussel - organ (01,07), string arrangement (01), ARP flutes (02), Yamaha E5AR organ (02), electric piano (02), glockenspiel (02), electric piano (05), Hammond organ (05), string synthesizer (06,07), vibraphone (06), grand piano (08), ARP string ensemble synthesizer (09)
- Bruce Lynch - bass (01,02,05,06,07,08)
- Andy Newmark - drums (01,05,08)
- Elkie Brooks - female vocals (01)
- Suzanne Lynch - backing vocals (01,02)
- Bill Berg - drums (02,06,07)
- Barry Morgan - drums (02)
- Roger Hawkins - drums (03,10)
- David Hood - bass (03,10)
- Barry Beckett - organ (03), electric & acoustic piano (10)
- Pete Carr - guitar (03,10)

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- Jim Johnson - rhythm guitar (03)
- Tim Henson - acoustic piano (03), organ (10)
- David Campbell - brass arrangement (03)
- Chick Corea - electric piano solo (05,09)
- Gene Page - brass arrangement (05), string arrangement (08)
- Reggie Young - electric guitar (06)
- Weldon Myrick - steel guitar (06)
- Broderick Smith - harmonica (08)
- Marjorie Lagerwall - harp (08)
- Carla Benson, Evette Benton, Barbara Ingram - backing vocals (08)
- Ray Gomez - electric guitar (09)

Cat Stevens bounced back from the lackluster Numbers with an album of pop/rock songs that brought his usual rhythmic folk-rock into contemporary style with the Muscle Shoals rhythm section, a snappy Dave Kershenbaum production, and lots of synthesizers. Most of the songs were unusually lightweight, but the autobiographical "(I Never Wanted) To Be a Star" explored Stevens' ambivalence about being in the music business, an attitude that would find him dropping out and finding religion after one more album. In the meantime, Izitso produced a final Top 40 hit in "(Remember the Days of The) Old Schoolyard" and a singles-chart entry in the instrumental "Was Dog a Doughnut." As a result, Stevens returned to the Top Ten LPs list with a ninth straight gold album, his last. ---William Ruhlmann, Rovi

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