

Alannah Myles – Black Velvet (2007)

Written by bluesever

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01. *Black Velvet 2007* - 4:41 02. *Comment Ca Va* - 5:23 03. *Prime Of My Life* - 4:06 04. *Only Wings* - 4:29 05. *Leave It Alone* - 4:49 06. *Anywhere But Home* - 3:05 07. *Faces In The Crowd* - 3:21 08. *Give Me Love* - 4:22 09. *What Is Love* - 3:27 10. *I Love You* - 4:38 11. *Trouble* - 5:12

Alannah Myles (percussion, sound effects, background vocals) Gary Nicholson (guitar, resonator guitar) Andrew Queen (guitar, Jew's harp) Michael Borkosky (acoustic guitar, electric guitar, mandolin, strings, English horn, keyboards, bass instrument, percussion, programming, sampler, background vocals) David Wipper (acoustic guitar) Kurt Scheffer (electric guitar) Jeff Healey (slide guitar) Yoshito Yamano (sitar) Paul Zevenhuizen, Hugh Marsh, James Wallenberg (violin) Valerie Kuinka (viola) Peter Rapson (cello) Dragoslav Tanaskovic (strings, Fender Rhodes piano, organ) Jerome Godboo (harmonica) Raimondo Violi (shawm) Chris Mitchell, Ray Podhornik (horns) Phil Parlapiano (piano) Ray Coburn (Fender Rhodes piano, Wurlitzer piano, Hammond b-3 organ) Daniel LeBlanc (keyboards, programming) Randy Cooke, Creighton Doane (drums, drum, percussion) Jorn Andersen (cymbals, percussion) Dan LeBlanc (keyboard programming) Saidah Mathews, Tuku Matthews, Sass Jordan (background vocals)

" BLACK VELVET " kicks off with an updated version of the original classic. Alannah wanted to re-record it because she saw no royalties from that #1 hit & all the albums she did for Atlantic Records. I'll indulge her on that decision because it's the 10 NEW songs that make this album so great. She co-wrote 9 of the 10 new songs. I prefer listening to this new CD starting with COMMENT CA VA, the first new song, and consider the new version of BLACK VELVET as a bonus track. After all, how can you top an absolute classic?

The entire CD is filled with diverse sounds, singing, instruments, and arrangements . The main thing is her VOICE. She still sounds crystal clear. You can't tell it's been awhile since her last album. She sounds amazing, and all these new songs are a joy to hear after such a long wait. There are rock songs like COMMENT CA VA, PRIME OF MY LIFE, ANYWHERE BUT HOME featuring Jeff Healey on guitar and WHAT IS LOVE, one of my favorites on here. Ballads have

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always been one of her strengths, and I LOVE YOU is astounding - a really beautiful song exquisitely sung & arranged . It is easily one of the best songs that Alannah has ever done. FACES IN THE CROWD was written by the same team that gave us BLACK VELVET - David Tyson & Christopher Ward. The variety of genres is all over the place on here, and of course, blues is represented with the closing song TROUBLE. Fellow Canadian rock chick Sass Jordan sings back-up on 2 songs, and the CD was produced by Mike Borkosky , who worked with Alannah on her A RIVAL album. Everything on here was produced sumptuously, from layered sounds and intricate parts to a spare arrangement like on I LOVE YOU.

Alannah is in full reign here as one of today's premier female vocalists. She's a chanteuse, rocker, balladeer, rocker, artist and legend. Get this CD. It's been worth the wait. Not to be missed. --- gassy goon, amazon.com

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