

Nicki Parrott, Rossano Sportiello, Eddie Metz - Strictly Confidential (2016)



01. *Strictly Confidential* (5:55) 02. *Sunset And The Mockingbird* (5:25) 03. *John Hardy's Wife* (4:23) 04. *What A Difference A Day Made* (4:12) 05. *Hallelujah, I Love Him So* (4:13) 06. *Misty* (5:29) 07. *A Brush With Bunji* (3:49) 08. *She* (5:32) 09. *Shoe Shine Boy* (5:33) 10. *What Are You Doing The Rest Of Your Life* (6:01) 11. *Pure Imagination* (5:10) 12. *Sunny Morning* (2:33) 13. *Close To You* (3:19) 14. *Shiny Stockings* (4:52) 15. *How Beautiful Is Night* (5:26)
Nicki Parrott - Bass and vocals Rossano Sportiello - Piano Eddie Metz – Drums

Rossano Sportiello is a virtuoso pianist and a master of piano styles. From Fats Waller to Bill Evans, he's on familiar terms with them all. This trio with bassist Nicki Parrott and drummer Eddie Metz provides the ideal setting for him to expand on 15 numbers, mostly associated with jazz piano greats of the past. They include a beautiful version of Duke Ellington's *Sunset and the Mockingbird* and a fresh look at Erroll Garner's much-frequented *Misty*. Metz, using brushes, demonstrates the rare art of quiet but dynamic drumming, and Parrott adds variety with the occasional vocal. The album can be enjoyed on several levels, from pleasant background listening to the closest attention. --- Dave Gelly, theguardian.com

Here's a piano trio of vet jazzbos that can play the kind of mannered cocktail jazz hotels demand in their sleep, but they wink at each other and slip in loads of swing when nobody is looking. Tasty stuff from a crew of unmistakable pros that love their work and have proven their mettle over and over again behind A listers than enlisted them, the set card has a few familiar tent poles in it but for the most part, they've done their homework to make sure the program is interesting and populated with goodies that shouldn't be forgotten from several different eras. State of the art piano trio work throughout. --- Chris Spector, amazon.com

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