

Gerald Albright - Smooth (1994)

Wpisany przez bluesever
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1 *Don't Worry About It* (Featuring – Vesta Williams) 4:33 2 *I Surrender* (Featuring – Lalah Hathaway) 5:50 3 *Sweet Baby* 5:11 4 *This Is For The Lover In You* 4:44 5 *G & Lee* (Featuring – Lee Ritenour) 6:31 6 *Just 2 B With You* (Featuring – Will Downing) 5:08 7 *Anniversary* 4:33 8 *Passion* 6:21 9 *Sedona* (Featuring – Stanley Clarke) 5:36 10 *Say It With Feeling* 5:36 Backing Vocals – Alfie Silas (tracks: 1), Howard Hewett (tracks: 4) Bass – Freddie Washington (tracks: 10) Drum Programming – Chuckii Booker Guitar – Paul Jackson Jr. Keyboards – Chuckii Booker, Travon Potts (tracks: 8,9) Saxophone – Gerald Albright

After a feisty live album recorded at Birdland gave this soulful saxman a chance to stretch his straight-ahead chops, the super cool side of Albright came back on this one. Smooth is indeed the operative word here, as this is a tasty if somewhat typical journey through the land of quiet storm and light funk. Albright's sharp, distinctive tone (bearing both melody and unexpected improvisations) heats up a too long series of pleasant but unremarkable melodies and grooves -- the one instrumental exception being the blazing dual energy provided on "g&lee" by the breezy guitar of Lee Ritenour. As background for those seductive night moves, the silky vocals by the likes of Howard Hewett and Will Downing are can't miss. Though Albright himself dazzles, more sax and less commercial slickness would make this a triumph rather than just another fine but generic rhythm and jazz effort. After you've heard his real jazz chops, the lack of a true traditional piece is a notable omission as well. ---Jonathan Widran, AllMusic Review

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