

Paolo Alderighi/Stephanie Trick I Love Erroll/I Love James P. (AT Music Productions)

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Disc 1



Disc 2

This double-CD contains two separate projects. Husband and wife pianists Paolo Alderighi and Stephanie Trick both had significant solo careers going before they met and married. While Ms. Trick developed into one of the finest stride pianists around, Alderighi's style is based more in 1950s jazz although he can also play stride and swing. In recent years they have often appeared together, playing a single piano with their four hands. Those who feared that they were potentially losing their individual styles have nothing to worry about as shown on these two equally enjoyable discs.

Stephanie Trick performs 19 compositions by the master of stride piano, James P. Johnson. Other than five piano duets with her husband, her set features her unaccompanied solos. While Johnson's "Carolina Shout," "If I Could Be With You" and "Old Fashioned Love" are included along with such hot stride pieces as "Jingles," "Riffs," and "You've Got To Be Modernistic," Trick also performs some of Johnson's worthy obscurities including "A Flat Dream," "Toddlin'," and "Victory Stride." Her playing is consistently brilliant throughout these exciting and often-heated performances.

On the second disc, Paolo Alderighi performs a tribute to Erroll Garner consisting of a dozen Garner pieces, Red Callender's "Pastel," and his own "I Love Erroll." On ten of the 14 numbers, Alderighi is joined by bassist Roberto Piccolo and Nicola Stranieri on drums and congas.

While many pianists have satirized the very distinctive and playful Garner style, there is none of that in Alderighi's tribute. He comes close to sounding like Garner at times (particularly on the slower pieces) but also improvises in his own style, bringing Garner's music back to life without having to imitate its composer. While Erroll Garner only wrote one standard ("Misty"), many of his other originals should have caught on, particularly "Dreamy," "Play, Piano, Play," "Nervous Waltz" and "Trio." Paolo Alderighi plays all of his songs with affection and understanding.

I Love Erroll/I Love James P. is a double gem, available from www.paoloandstephanie.com.

