Anita O'Day – Jazz Round Midnight (1997)



1. Angel Eyes 03:38 2. A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square 04:01 3. We'll Be Together Again 03:37 4. I Cover the Waterfront 34:01 5. If the Moon Turns Green 02:53 6. Early Autumn 03:09 7. I'm Not Lonely 03:04 8. A Lover Is Blue 03:01 9. Tenderly 03:20 10. I'm Not Supposed to Be Blue Blues 02:27 11. You Came a Long Way From St. Louis 04:13 12. Trav'lin' Light 03:34 Personnel: Anita O'Day (vocals); Herb Ellis, Howard Roberts, Al Hendrickson, Al Viola, Tal Farlow, Barney Kessel, Barry Galbraith (guitar); Corky Hale (harp); Lou Raderman, Dan Lube (violin); Virginia Majewski (viola); Walter Levinsky (clarinet, alto saxophone); Bud Shank (woodwinds, alto saxophone); Jimmy Giuffre (woodwinds, baritone saxophone); Alex Harding (woodwinds); Joe Maini (alto saxophone, tenor saxophone); Herb Geller, Lennie Niehaus, Phil Woods (alto saxophone); Georgie Auld, Jerome Richardson, Richie Kamuca, Zoot Sims, Bill Perkins, Bob Cooper (tenor saxophone); Chuck Gentry, Jack DuLong (baritone saxophone); Stu Williamson (trumpet, trombone); Conrad Gozzo, Conte Candoli, Phil Gilbert, Bill Catalano, John Anderson, Herb Pomeroy, Jack Sheldon, Jules Chaiken, Al Porcino, Pete Candoli, Ray Linn, Ray Triscari, Sam Noto, Lee Katzman (trumpet); Milt Bernhart, Dick Nash, Lou McCreary, Frank Rosolino, George Roberts, Kent Larsen, Willie Dennis, Kenny Shroyer, Bob Enevoldsen, Archie LeCoque, Jim Amlotte, Lloyd Ulyate (trombone); Paul Smith (piano, celesta); Bud Lavin, Robert Corwin, Hank Jones, Jimmy Rowles, Lonnie Hewitt, Marty Paich, Oscar Peterson, Russ Freeman (piano); Larry Bunker (vibraphone, drums); Bob Brookmeyer, Cal Tjader (vibraphone); Rae, Mel Lewis, Alvin Stoller, John Poole (drums).

In keeping with the Jazz 'Round Midnight theme, this Anita O'Day sampler errs on the mellow side of things with 16 after-hours gems from the lady of bop vocal rhythm. For fans more interested in sampling all of O'Day's talents, though, there's such well-balanced Verve collection as Jazz Masters and Compact Jazz to check out. But, if your optimal inroad to jazz vocals is a smooth one, this disc -- with ballad highlights like "Man With a Horn," "I'm Not Lonely," and "Early Autumn" -- will make for ideal listening. And while O'Day is not the first word in jazz ballads (think June Christy or Ella Fitzgerald), her beguiling delivery -- along with the disc's wealth of top-notch charts and amazing cast of sidemen -- makes up for any lack of rarefied mood moments. Packed with gems from the singer's '50s and early-'60s prime, Jazz 'Round

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Midnight: Anita O'Day will make the familiarizing process as easy as sipping a glass of French red.--- Stephen Cook, Rovi

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