Written by bluesever Saturday, 01 November 2014 17:00 -

Bird York - The Velvet Hour (2005)



1 Haunting You 2 Open Wider 3 Wicked Little High 4 Had a Dream 5 Save Me 6 Remedy 7 Lovely Thing 8 Come Be With Me 9 Up in Flames 10 In the Deep 11 Never Gonna Find Us 12 Have No Fear

Lovely singer-songwriter set that leans much more in a jazz rather than folk direction (although there's plenty of folk there too). For people who like intelligent adult singers such as Shawn Colvin or latter-day Joni Mitchell (whose ex-husband Larry Klein turns up as a producer here). --- BradL, rateyourmusic.com

York plays Andrea Wyatt on The West Wing. The history of TV (and movie) stars using their celebrity to jump-start a music career is pretty dismal, making York's latest album (she released a self-produced indie record in 1999) a pleasant surprise. Working with veteran producers Larry Klein (Joni Mitchell) and Michael Becker, she's made a record aimed at grown-up listeners delivered in a smoky voice that's perfect for late-night listening. Odes to passive-aggressive lovers rub shoulders with songs about the living haunting the dead and subtly funky odes to physical love. --- j. poet, pastemagazine.com

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<u>back</u>