

New York Trio - The Things We Did Last Summer (2002)



1. *Shadow of Your Smile* (J. Mandel) 4:54 [play](#) 2. *The Things We Did Last Summer* (J. Styne) 6:38 3. *How Long Has This Been Going On?* (George & Ira Gershwin) 7:36 4. *How High the Moon* (M. Lewis) 7:49 5. *Mona Lisa* (J. Livingstone) 3:40

[play](#)

6. *You'd Be So Nice to Come Home To* (Cole Porter) 9:13 7. *It's Only a Paper Moon* (H. Arlen) 6:02 8. *When Your Lover Has Gone* (Einar A. Swan) 8:02 9. *As Time Goes By* (H. Humpfield) 5:44

Personnel: Bill Charlap (piano); Jay Leonhart (double bass); Bill Stewart (drums).

Bill Charlap is one of the greatest piano jazz players in the world today. His encyclopedic knowledge of the American Songbook is amazing and this disc contains a nice representative cross section. This disc is one of about five so far on the Japanese Venus label featuring the New York Trio. They are all recorded in 24 bit sound using a proprietary Hyper Magnum Sound that is so pristine it's just remarkable. Rather close miked so you get lots of details. This is an amazing and refreshing disc to wind down from the press of modern life with. I just enjoy his playing so much. Bill and company reach down into these old songs and pull out gems you haven't heard before. What finesse and refinement and sensitivity they play with, and really enjoy themselves at the same time. This is a level of jazz music you won't find often. Enjoy. --- Edward Weeks Sager (Sebring, FL USA)

The relaxed tone of this CD is set from the beginning, with Bill Charlap's quiet, spare solo reading of "The Shadow of Your Smile." On the next track, the others join in for some mellow and friendly swinging: Jay Leonhart's big, fat bass grounds Charlap's dreaminess, while Bill

Stewart, who's left his sticks at home for this date, brushes up the tempo with subtlety and style. This release offers thoughtful solo piano (also on "Mona Lisa"), slow, romantic ballads ("How Long Has This Been Going On," "Paper Moon"), and tasty mid-tempo treatments ("As Time Goes By," "When Your Lover Has Gone"). While there are no barnburners, the heat rises to a steady simmer on "You'd Be So Nice..." and "How High the Moon," where the players are audibly enjoying themselves. Leonhart's solos are consistently interesting, drizzled with wit, and the ever-lyrical Charlap provides rarely heard verses to six of these nine classic tunes. The CD will lease those who like their jazz served straight up and pared down to essentials; its simplicity is deceptive, given the level of expertise and feeling throughout. --- Judith Schlesinger, Rovi

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