Barbara Dennerlein - Barbara Dennerlein Plays Classics (1999)

1. Blues For Rudi 3:47 2. Night And Day 3:20 3. Georgia On My Mind 8:04 4. Meditation 3:38 5. How High The Moon 3:03 6. Satin Doll 6:53 7. Take The A Train 5:00 8. Yesterday 4:37 9. This Old Fairy-Tale 4:31 Barbara Dennerlein - Hammond organ & footpedal bass
Christoph Widmoser – guitar Andreas Witte – drums

Perhaps once or twice in a generation a young musician appears out of the blue, breathing spectacular new life into an old musical genre long regarded as passé. So it was with Barbara Dennerlein who was largely responsible for the rebirth of interest in the almost-forgotten Hammond B3. This album, “Barbara Dennerlein Plays Classics”, was recorded when Barbara was only 24 years old, long before worldwide fame that followed. It shows a mastery of the instrument far beyond her years, and stunning bass pedal work that is the envy of other jazz organists. Already by this time, this Munich native had reached the pinnacle of the German and European jazz scene, with far greater fame soon to come. “Barbara Dennerlein Plays Classics” captures that moment in time as a star of the European jazz scene was on the verge of worldwide recognition.

Here, with dazzling Dennerlein style, the Barbara Dennerlein Trio pays homage to some of the unforgettable songs of the ‘50s and ‘60s…. classics that recall names like Duke Ellington, Billy Strayhorn, Count Basie, Cole Porter, Hoagy Carmichel, Antonio Carlos Jobim, and later, the Beatles. Barbara leads her trio effortlessly through swing, bop, ballads, blues, and even a tasty bossa, then tops it all off with two of her own compositions. Through it all, it’s all too easy to forget there is no bassist playing that tight bass… it’s just Barbara’s lightning-fast left foot.

This is a truly delightful album, bound to become a favorite. In listening, one can easily see why this young 24 year old was already on the road to achieving recognition worldwide.
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