

Herbie Hancock – Gershwin's World (1998)

Written by bluesever

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1 Overture (Fascinating Rhythm) 2 It Ain't Necessarily 3 The Man I Love 4 Here Come De Honey Man 5 St. Louis Blues 6 Lullaby 7 Blueberry Rhyme P 8 It Ain't Necessarily So (Interlude) 9 Cotton Tail 10 Summertime 11 My Man's Gone Now 12 Prelude In C# Minor 13 Concerto For Piano And Orchestra In G, Second Movement 14 Embraceable You
Alex AI - Bass, Bass Instrument Toby Appel - Viola Cyro Bapista - Percussion Kathleen Battle - Soprano, Soprano (Vocal), Vocals Ronnie Bauch - Violin Martha Caplin - Violin Terri Lyne Carrington - Drums James Carter - Sax (Soprano), Sax (Tenor) Ron Carter - Bass Susannah Chapman - Cello Catherine Cho - Violin Sarah Clarke - Viola Stanley Clarke - Bass Ira Coleman - Bass, Bass Instrument Chick Corea - Piano Charles Curtis - Cello Nicolas Danielson - Violin Marji Danilow - Bass Madou Dembelle - Djembe Matthew Dine - Horn (English) Massamba Diop - Talking Drum Karen Dreyfus - Viola Michael Finn - Bassoon, Principal Jennifer Frautschi - Violin Kenny Garrett - Sax (Alto) Marlon Graves - Guitar, Percussion Brian Greene - Oboe Bireyma Guiye - Percussion Herbie Hancock - Arranger, Organ, Piano Eddie Henderson - Flugelhorn, Trumpet Cynde Iverson - Bassoon Gene Jackson - Drums Joanna Jenner - Violin Renee Jolles - Violin Chris Komer - Horn Bakithi Kumalo - Bass, Bass Instrument Elizabeth Mann - Flute Cheik Mbaye - Percussion Melissa Meel - Cello Joni Mitchell - Vocals Katherine Murdock - Viola Charles Neidich - Clarinet, E Flat Clarinet Ahling Neu - Viola Orpheus Chamber Orchestra Donald Palma - Bass Ellen Payne - Violin Todd Phillips - Violin Nardo Poy - Viola William Purvis - Horn Richard Rood - Violin Robert Sadin - Drum Programming, Percussion Programming Eriko Sato - Violin Wayne Shorter - Sax (Soprano), Sax (Tenor) David Singer - Clarinet Mina Smith - Cello Naoko Tanaka - Violin Clavin Wiersman - Violin Peter Winograd - Violin Stevie Wonder - Arranger, Harmonica, Vocals Asmira Woodward-Page - Violin Eric Wyrick - Violin

Gershwin's World is a tour de force for Herbie Hancock, transcending genre and label, and ranking among the finest recordings of his lengthy career. Released to coincide with the 100th anniversary of George Gershwin's birth, this disc features jazzman Hancock with a classy collection of special guests. The most surprising of Hancock's guest stars is Joni Mitchell, who delivers a gorgeously sensual vocal on "The Man I Love," then provides an airy, worldly take on "Summertime." On these two tracks, she shows she has come a long way from her folksinger

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beginnings to become a first-class jazz singer in her own right. Stevie Wonder's unmistakable harmonica complements Mitchell's singing on "Summertime" and shares lead instrument space with his own voice on the W.C. Handy classic "St. Louis Blues." Jazzman extraordinaire Wayne Shorter smokes a solo spot on Duke Ellington's "Cotton Tail" and carves out some space for his soprano saxophone in the midst of "Summertime." A number of the young lions of jazz are featured on various cuts, and Herbie's old pal Chick Corea joins the leader for a piano duet of James P. Johnson's "Blueberry Rhyme." Gershwin's wonderful, extended "Lullaby" finds Hancock teamed with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, as does an attractive arrangement of a "Concerto for Piano and Orchestra" by Maurice Ravel, whose jazz influence can be heard on the piece. In addition, one of the most beautiful tracks on the album places star soprano Kathleen Battle's voice at the forefront of Gershwin's own "Prelude in C# Minor." Yet with all the fine performances by his guests, Gershwin's World remains Hancock's show, and he plays magnificently throughout. From beautiful to funky, percussive to melodic, improvisational to tightly arranged, Hancock and cohorts take a wondrous journey through the music and world of Gershwin. ---Jim Newsom, Rovi

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