

Ralph Sharon - Swings The Sammy Cahn Songbook (1995)

Written by bluesever

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1. *My Kind Of Town* 2. *Teach Me Tonight* 3. *Be My Love/Because You're Mine* 4. *Guess I'll Hang My Tears Out To Dry* 5. *It's Magic* 6. *It's You Or No One* 7. *Call Me Irresponsible* 8. *Blues For Sammy* 9. *The Things We Did Last Summer* 10. *Autumn In Rome* 11. *I Should Care* 12. *All The Way* 13. *Time After Time/The Second Time Around* 14. *The Tender Trap* Ralph Sharon – piano Douglas Richeson – bass Clayton Cameron – drums Gerry Mulligan – tenor saxophone (tracks: 11-14)

This CD is a little unusual for, although it is a tribute to a major lyricist (Sammy Cahn), the music is purely instrumental. Pianist Ralph Sharon swings lightly and takes most of the high-quality songs at a slow-to-medium tempo, never wandering very far from the themes. While bassist Douglas Richardson and drummer Clayton Cameron are fine in support, by far the most interesting performances are the three songs on which baritonist Gerry Mulligan is a guest; his presence pushes Sharon to play at his best. Otherwise this is a set of rather lazy and very respectful melody statements, pleasing enough but absent of any surprises or revelations. ---Scott Yanow, allmusic.com

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