## Smokey Robinson - Time Flies When You're Having Fun (2009)

*01. Time Flies 4:59 02. Don't Know Why 3:54 03. Girlfriend 4:25 04. You're The One For Me (Feat. Joss Stone) 5:05 05. One Time 4:47 06. Please Don't Take Your Love (Feat. Santana) 4:49 07. That Place 4:53 08. Love Bath 5:33 09. Whatcha Gonna Do 5:19 10. Satisfy You 4:45 11. You're Just My Life 4:09 12. I Want You Back 4:42* Tariqh Akoni Guitar Alex Al Bass Karrie Benoit Vocals (Background) Karrie Benoit-Morales Vocals (Background) Terrence Bolden Composer, Drum Programming, Guitar, Producer Damon Bourne Vocals (Background) Sonny Burke String Arrangements Luis Conte Percussion Dean DeLeo Guitar David Garfield Arranger, Keyboards, Piano Gary Gold Drum Programming, Drums, Engineer, Keyboards, Mixing, Piano, Producer Serena Henry Vocals (Background) Dorian Holley Vocals (Background) Paul Jackson, Jr. Guitar Ricky Lawson Drums Ricky Minor Bass Ray Parker, Jr. Guitar Darryl Phinessy Vocals (Background) Smokey Robinson Arranger, Composer, Producer, Vocals C.C. Thomas Bass Phil Upchurch Guitar David T. Walker Guitar "Ready" Freddie Washington Bass David E. Williams Guitar

The time that has flown is Smokey's 50 years in the business, but it could just as well refer to the number of years since Robinson has released a smooth soul album: almost 20 full years! Smokey, of course, has stayed active during the interim, both on-stage and on record, but Time Flies When You're Having Fun marks a return to the coolly simmering quiet storm that was his stock in trade during the '70s and '80s. Apart from production techniques, not much has changed in Smokey's music during the time off, either: this is still smooth, unhurried soul that vacillates between elegance and supper-club classiness. Of course, since these are two sides of the same coin, they fit together seamlessly, with the only question being whether the immaculately polished music veers toward the corny, but whenever it does, Smokey's impeccably tailored vocals steer it back to toward the sweetly romantic. After all these years, Smokey still makes it all seem easy -- so easy that it's puzzling why he hasn't made a record like this in so long, because as this comforting, velvety album proves, nobody does it better than he. ---Stephen Thomas Erlewine, AllMusic Review

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