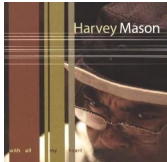


Harvey Mason □ – With All My Heart (2004)

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J

- 1 *Bernie's Tune* 3:41 Bass – Ron Carter Drums – Harvey Mason Piano – Kenny Barron
- 2 *If I Should Lose You* 7:26 Bass – Dave Carpenter
Drums – Harvey Mason Piano – Chick Corea
- 3 *So Near, So Far* 4:41
Bass – Eddie Gomez Drums – Harvey Mason Piano – Fred Hersch
- 4 *Swamp Fire* 4:18
Bass – Charnett Moffett Drums – Harvey Mason Piano – Monty Alexander
- 5 *Smoke Gets In Your Eyes* 6:13
Bass – Charlie Haden Drums – Harvey Mason Piano – Bob James
- 6 *Hindsight* 5:26
Bass – Ron Carter Drums – Harvey Mason Piano – Cedar Walton
- 7 *Dindi* 7:47
Bass – Larry Grenadier Drums – Harvey Mason Piano – Brad Mehldau
- 8 *Without A Song* 6:40
Bass – Ron Carter Drums – Harvey Mason Piano – Mulgrew Miller
- 9 *One Morning In May* 4:41
Bass – Mike Valerio Drums – Harvey Mason Piano – Dave Grusin
- 10 *Speak Like A Child* 5:18
Bass – Dave Carpenter Drums – Harvey Mason Piano – Herbie Hancock
- 11 *Tess* 4:40
Bass – George Mraz Drums – Harvey Mason Piano – Hank Jones

Harvey Mason's motto on *With All My Heart* seems to be "The one who plays drums in a jazz trio with the most bad-ass pianists and bassists wins. Arguably, that can be also stated of his entire career, as he has played and recorded with a mind-numbing amount of artists through various historical periods and musical styles. The lengthy and illustrious development of the

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quintessential small jazz group is definitely boosted by this recording.

The premise of the production was quite simple: Mason endeavoring to pair several of his favorite pianists and bassists to record material that is largely familiar to both musicians and the average jazz audience, as well as suited to the respective instrumentalists involved. With the exception of bassists Dave Carpenter, who performs on "If I Should Lose You and "Speak Like a Child, and Ron Carter, who executes on three compositions, the only common thread of the recording is the dexterous and versatile drumming of the leader. Blessedly, Mason also decided to write the liner notes—hence the prospect of knowing what he had in mind for each super-trio, their respective interpretations, and their *raison d'être*.

"If I Should Lose You, interpreted by Chick Corea, Carpenter, and Mason, is a first and only take. It's emblematic of the best this project, the traditional jazz trio, and this type of music has to offer. Herein the devil isn't only in the details, even though they tell a story by themselves. The cymbal ride, Carpenter's in-and-out march (he seems to vanish while being ever more present), and Corea's elegant and robust lyricism are some particulars worth mentioning. But those are minutiae within a dreamily tight and expressive cohesiveness that closes with an understated driven coda.

Hank Jones and George Mraz join the leader in "Tess. Jones opens by himself and takes immediate ownership of this number. Mason does quite a bit with it, without intruding one bit as Mraz lays it heavy yet unruffled before following Jones for a couple of bars. It is finger lickin' good! --Javier Aq Ortiz, allaboutjazz.com

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