## Richie Beirach - Romantic Rhapsody (2000)



1. Flamenco Sketches (M. Davis, B. Evans) 06:47 2. Spring Is Here (R. Rodgers) 06:54 3. Blue in Green (M. Davis, B. Evans) 07:02 4. Old Folks (W. Robinson) 10:32 5. Young and Foolish (A. Hague) 06:41 6. Prelude No. 20 C Minor (F. Chopin) 06:14 7. Hudba (R. Beirach) 05:18 play 8. I Wish I Knew (H. Warren) 06:04 9. Last Rhapsody (R. Beirach) 05:35 Personnel: Richie Beirach - piano George Mraz - bass Billy Hart – drums

Although somewhat underrated, Richie Beirach is a consistently inventive pianist whose ability to play both free and with lyricism makes him an original. After studying classical piano, Beirach switched to jazz. He studied at Berklee and the Manhattan School of Music, and took lessons with Stan Getz, Dave Holland, and Jack DeJohnette. Beirach played electric piano while with Dave Liebman's Lookout Farm in 1974, but afterward mostly stuck to acoustic piano. He teamed up with Liebman on many occasions (including the early-'80s group Quest) and has recorded frequently since the '80s. Among his many jobs as a sideman were important stints with Getz, Lee Konitz, John Abercrombie, and Chet Baker, and Beirach has played music ranging from hard bop to totally free. His classical training can sometimes be heard in his more advanced improvisations, along with the sensitivity of a Bill Evans. ---Scott Yanow, All Music Guide

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