Buddy Rich & Harry "Sweets" Edison - Buddy And Sweets (1955)



1. Yellow Rose Of Brooklyn 2. Easy Does It 3. All Sweets 4. Nice Work If You Can Get It 5. Barney's Bugle 6. Now's The Time 7. You're Getting To Be A Habit With Me Buddy Rich (drums); Harry "Sweets" Edison (trumpet); Jimmy Rowles (piano); Barney Kessel (guitar); John Simmons (bass).

...In 1955, Buddy and Harry came together for one truly memorable session. Buddy Rich and Harry “Sweets” Edison was originally recorded on Norgran Records but the label was later acquired by Verve. The two had recorded earlier when they were with the JATP but this was their first project where together they are the headliners. It’s swing at its best and is a venue for two of the master craftsman to showcase their talents.

The other members of the band are Jimmy Rowles on piano, Barney Kessel on guitar, and John Simmons on bass. With this impressive roster of background musicians the talent just doesn’t seem to stop. Jimmy Rowles started playing professionally at the age of 17 and over the years played with Lester Young and Billie Holiday. He’s received numerous Grammy nominations and is recognized as a master jazz pianist. John Simmons on bass picked up valuable experience when he played with Nat King Cole and also played briefly with Duke Ellington. He performed with many great jazz artists during the fifties but had to stop playing in the early sixties because of deteriorating health. A bit of trivia for my New York friends, Sue Simmons co-anchor of WNBC News at Five is his daughter. Barney Kessel, known as “The Innovator,” legitimized the use of the guitar within the jazz spectrum. He was a very versatile musician and was comfortable playing jazz, country, rock, or the blues. Sadly, Barney also passed away just this past April... --- Craig “Craigy- G” Fitzpatrick, stereotimes.com

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