Wynton Marsalis - Hot House Flouwers (1984)

A1 Stardust 4:07 A2 Lazy Afternoon 5:03 A3 For All We Know 6:15 A4 When You Wish Upon A Star 4:40 B1 Django 4:52 B2 Melancholia 5:09 B3 Hot House Flowers 5:46 B4 I'm Confessin' (That I Love You) 5:41 Wynton Marsalis – trumpet Branford Marsalis – soprano and tenor saxophone Kent Jordan - flute Kenny Kirkland – piano Ron Carter – double bass Jeff "Tain" Watts – drums Robert Freedman – conductor, arranger

Wynton Marsalis, very much in his Miles Davis period, plays quite melodically throughout this ballad-dominated outing with strings. Branford Marsalis (on tenor and soprano), flutist Kent Jordan, pianist Kenny Kirkland, bassist Ron Carter, and drummer Jeff Watts are strong assets but it is Wynton's subtle creativity on such songs as "Stardust," "When You Wish Upon a Star," Duke Ellington's "Melancholia," and "I'm Confessin'" that makes this recording special. The arrangements by Robert Freedman generally keep the strings from sounding too sticky and Wynton's tone is consistently beautiful. ---Scott Yanow, Rovi

Thanks to Bob Freedman (Berklee College of Music, arranger and composer) who arranged so well this album. It's not just some strings playing guide tones, it's a whole work of melodic construction and harmonisation. He made simple tunes sound like never before. Just great. Wynton, very talented was a good player for the arrangements. At this age he already had a very strong attitude in his sound. I would recommend this album not only for trumpet players, jazz musicians, but to composers and arrangers. Listen to Bob, he did a great job. ---Hugo Miura, amazon.com

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