Jessye Norman – Spirituals (1979)

01- I Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray
02- My Lord, What A Morning
03- Do Lawd, Oh Do Lawd
04- There's A Man Going Round
05- Ev'ry Time I Feel De Spirit
06- There Is Balm In Gilead
07- Gospel Train
08- Great Day
09- Mary Had A Baby
10- Live A Humble
11- Walk Together Children
12- Were You There
13- Hush! Somebody's Callin' My Name
14- Soon Ah Will Be Done
15- Give Me Jesus

Performer:
Jessye Norman - soprano
Dalton Baldwin - piano
William Patterson - conductor
Ambrosian Sigers

Much like Amazing Grace, Spirtuals is a stirring collection of gospel standards, all performed with grace and passion by Jessye Norman. She had long ago proven herself as a peerless soprano, but with Spirituals, she confirms her status as one of the finest contemporary gospel singers as well. ---Rodney Batdorf, Rovi

Jessye Norman is a Living Legend that everyone needs to see on stage at least once in their lifetime. The depth and of her voice is like none other and hearing her sing Negro Spirituals shakes my very soul. She sings from a place of experience and personal knowledge that only persons who've experienced the pangs of racism, rejection and marginalization in America can understand.

The purity of her voice on songs like "Get on Board Little Children" causes one to literally hear the Gospel Train rounding the tracks to glory. Or the sorrow in the question, "Were you There When They Crucified My Lord?" makes the listener feels as if he or she were actually standing at the foot of the cross while the soldiers nailed the Savior to the tree. Jessye Norman takes you on the journey of the Negro Spiritual and allows you to experience the pain and the hope of the slave.

Every listener should teach their children these classic spirituals, as well as introduce them to this Vocal Diva. She masterfully preserves the Negro Spiritual so we do no forget the beauty of their lyrics or their sounds. I purchased several copies and gave them away as gifts. "Lest our feet, stray from the places our God where we met thee. Lest our heart, drunk with the wine of the world we forget thee. Out of the gloomy past. May now we stand at last. True to our God. True to our native land." (from the Negro National Anthem) ---Pastor Cheryl Denise Ward, Cheryl Ward Ministries,Oakland, amazon.com

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back