

## Carolyn Leonhart and Nina Simone

Carolyn Leonhart's "**New 8th Day**" and legend Nina Simone's "**Fodder On My Wings**"

### [Carolyn Leonhart](#)

**New 8th Day**. *Noneday, I'm In The Mood For Love, No Moonlight, Sometimes I Think, Whisper Not, Daydream, If I Should Lose You, Home, Photograph, Moonriver*

**Personnel:** Carolyn Leonhart: vocals; Wayne Escoffery: tenor saxophone; Rick Germanson: piano; Hans Glawischnig: bass; Donald Edwards: drums; Jason Brown: drums

**New 8th Day** ([www.carolynleonhart.com](http://www.carolynleonhart.com)) was released under the **Sunnyside Records** label in 2004. It has been five years since the release of Carolyn's critically acclaimed, "Steal the Moon", and the wait was worth it. Carolyn, a native New Yorker, grew up surrounded by the jazz scene accompanying her bassist/composer/singer father, Jay Leonhart, into the studio, and to his numerous live venues, and knew she was destined for a career in music. After graduating from college, she returned to New York and promptly was the 3rd place winner in the 1994 Thelonious Monk Vocal Jazz Competition. Carolyn has been a part of two world tours with Donald Fagen and Walter Becker of Steely Dan, and has appeared on their multi-Grammy Award winning album "Two Against Nature".

**New 8th Day** is a perfect mix of original songs, jazz standards, and Carolyn's own arrangements of jazz standards. "Noneday" leads off the release, and is one of Carolyn's originals with a classic jazz tempo featuring Wayne Escoffery on tenor saxophone. Other originals include: "No Moonlight", and "Home." Carolyn's arrangements include "Sometimes I Think" which was written by her father Jay Leonhart, "Daydream", "Photograph" and "Moonriver". I especially loved her cover of the Billy Strayhorn and Duke Ellington song "Daydream", which features Wayne Escoffery.

**New 8th Day** reminds the jazz world how great a talent Carolyn is.

## Nina Simone

**Fodder On My Wings.** *I sing just to know that I'm alive, Fodder in her wings, Vous êtes seuls, mais je désire être avec vous, Il y a un baume a gilhead, Liberian Calypso, Alone again naturally, I was just a stupid dog to them, Color is a beautiful thing, Le peuple en suisse, Heaven belongs to you, Thandewye, Stop, They took my hand*

**Personnel:** Nina Simone: piano, vocals, harpichord shaker, tambourine, harmony; Sydney Thiam: congas, bells, woodblock; Paco Sery: percussion, tympani; Sylvain Marc: electric bass, vocals

**Fodder On My Wings** is a re-release under the **Sunnyside Records** label, and was remixed in digital. This is an interesting look at a period of time in Nina Simone's life, the early 1980's, which reflects her self-imposed "exile" from the US. **Fodder On My Wings** was recorded in 1982; the songs are sung in English and French, and were written, adapted, and arranged and are a reflection of her feelings, attitude and musical influences; the tracks include a cross-section of genres from jazz, African chants and Caribbean sounds.

If you are fan of music history and Nina Simone, then **Fodder On My Wings** is an excellent release to have in your collection. You can hear the struggles, the influences, as well as the happy times throughout the release; this is a retrospective of a person, a time, and a sound.

"I sing just to know that I'm alive" is the perfect song to lead off this release, with Nina belting out "1981, Tomorrow is done!" to denote the time period in her life, before singing the rousing lyrics, "I sing just to know that I'm alive", and she is very much alive on this release.

"Fodder in her wings" is an interesting arrangement blending African rhythm with the sounds of the harpichord shaker as she sings about her self-imposed "exile" from the United States.

"Vous êtes seuls, mais je désire être avec vous", is sung in French with an African rhythm, and weaves together a few of her influences at that time, living in France and extensive travels through Africa.

"Liberian Calypso" shows the influence from her time in the Caribbean, followed by a special recording of "Alone again naturally", which by itself is worth acquiring this release.

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