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Created by: Edward F. Nesta Liane Carroll - Slow Down

Liane Carroll's much-anticipated release <u>Slow Down</u>delivers the goods as Liane, her piano, and her remarkable Jazz voice rewards us with her best release to date.



Liane Carroll - Slow Down

Slow Down: Memphis In June, All The Way, Lazy Susan, You Can't Show My Heart Down, Let Me Be What You Be To Me, Catch The Wind, In My Solitude, Willow Weep For Me, The World Stopped Turning, All of Me, One Fine Day, If I loved You, Lazy Afternoon, Take It With Me

Personnel: Liane Carroll: vocals, grand piano, Wurlitzer electric piano on all tracks except *If I Loved You*; lan Shaw: piano on *If I Loved You*

Slow Down was produced by Neal Richardson on the <u>Splash Point Records</u> label; this is the third release by Liane on the Splash Point Records label. I reviewed two of Liane's previous releases <u>Standard Issue</u> and <u>Billy No Mates</u>in the <u>Music Scene</u> section. **Standard Issue** is the release that followed her winning **Two BBC Jazz Awards** in 2005. In addition, Liane received the **UKFemale Singer of the Year 2007** at the inaugural **Ronnie Scott's Jazz Awards**.

Slow Down was recorded 'live' in a phenomenal 4-hour recording session with just Liane and her piano, which if you have had the experience to catch Liane perform live as I have, you would know that Liane and a piano is as good as it gets. Liane is about emotion, passion, and energy, where one minute she is tugging at your heart, and the next minute she is making you smile. The track *If I Loved you* is in remembrance of Liane's grandmother who raised her and as Liane tells it, her grandmother loved to sing a duet with Liane of "If I Loved you." To keep her grandmother's flame alive, Liane, who dedicated **Slow Down** to her granddaughter, will carry on the loving ritual and sing this special song to her.

Liane's voice is commanding and when she scats on the track *MemphisIn June*, you cannot help but compare her to the jazz greats like Sarah Vaughn and Dinah Washington. What I find amazing is her ability to draw a resonance from her piano that is in direct complement to her vocal timbre (Liane and her piano - as good as it gets).

Liane's selection of Hoagy Carmichael's *MemphisIn June* to lead off the release is what great performances are made of, a song to engage your audience and get them wanting more, and she delivers. Cornering the emotional elements of a song is heard throughout the release and especially in Liane's rendition of *All The Way* where every word is sung with fervor. Liane opens her heart through her voice and fingers as she moves through **Slow Down**; there is no letting up on this release. In fact, it seems that as you progress

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through each track that the lyrics and Liane's rendition draws you deeper into her soul.

Slow Down takes the listener on a heartfelt journey as Liane sings songs that mean so much to her; each selection was carefully selected from her heart, and you feel the impact that that they have left on her, as they will the listener.

Websites where you can procure**Liane Carroll - Slow Down** are **Splash Point Records**, **CD Universe**, **Play.com**, and **HMV**.

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