

Audio Reviews

Maja Jaku: Soul Searching

Powerful Vienna-based singer links up with Jim Rotondi and other top-flight soloists in a bluesy, funky set including The Jody Grind

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Ms Jaku has a strong, powerful voice which is well suited to jazz vocals. She is here blessed with a tightly cohesive five-piece combo in which Jim Rotondi on trumpet and Thomas Kugi on tenor sax shine. Rotondi also features as an individual trumpet voice where his lyrical, laidback sound is highly effective. Mucic takes care of the piano accompaniment and solos well, when called upon.

The repertoire includes three originals by Dave Scott, while Maja has written her own Be Real and My Blues. She manages an original reading of Holiday's God Bless The Child, not the easiest thing for a vocalist and has her own take on Horace Silver's The Jody Grind.

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