

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO
PA1Z001

CHARLIE PARKER

PRISTINE
AUDIO
XR

WITH STRINGS (THE XR REMASTERS)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|----|---|
| 1 | Just Friends (3:36) | 10 | East Of The Sun (and West Of The Moon) (3:43) |
| 2 | Everything Happens To Me (3:21) | 11 | They Can't Take That Away From Me (3:21) |
| 3 | April In Paris (3:11) | 12 | Easy To Love (3:39) |
| 4 | Summertime (2:52) | 13 | Im In The Mood For Love (3:39) |
| 5 | I Didn't Know What Time It Was (3:18) | 14 | I'll Remember April (3:09) |
| 6 | If I Should Lose You (2:52) | 15 | Temptation (3:37) |
| 7 | Dancing In The Dark (3:16) | 16 | Lover (3:12) |
| 8 | Out Of Nowhere (3:13) | 17 | Autumn In New York (3:35) |
| 9 | Laura (3:09) | 18 | Stella By Starlight (2:57) |

Tracks 1-6: November 30, 1949; 7-14: July 5, 1950; Reeves Sound Studios, New York City.
Tracks 15-18: January 22, 1952; First Ave. & East 44th St., New York City.

1949 - *Charlie Parker With Strings*: Parker (as), Stan Freeman (p), Ray Brown (b), Buddy Rich (d), Mitch Miller (oboe), Meyer Rosen (harp), Jimmy Carroll (arr-cond), strings.
1950 - *Charlie Parker With Strings*: Parker (as), Joe Singer (French horn), Edwin Brown (oboe), Verley Mills (harp), Ray Brown (b), Buddy Rich (d), Bernie Leighton (p), Joe Lipmann (arr-cond), strings.
1952 - *Charlie Parker and His Orchestra*: Chris Griffin, Bernie Privin, Al Porcino (p), Will Bradley, Bill Harris (tb), Parker, Toots Mondello, Murray Williams (as), Hank Ross, Flip Phillips (s), Stan Webb (bs), Verley Mills (harp), Lou Stein (f), Art Ryerson (g), Bob Haggart (b), Don Lamond (d), Joe Lipmann (arr-cond), strings, woodwinds.

XR remastering by Andrew Rose at Pristine Audio, December 2007
Cover artwork based on a photograph of Charlie Parker

Total duration: 59:29 ©2007 Pristine Audio.

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On November 30, 1949, Norman Granz arranged for Parker to record an album of ballads with a mixed group of jazz and chamber orchestra musicians. The players were Parker on alto saxophone; Mitch Miller on oboe and English horn; Bronislaw Gimpel, Max Hollander, and Milton Lamask on violin; Frank Brieff on viola; Frank Miller on cello; Meyer Rosen on harp; Stan Freeman on piano; Ray Brown on bass; Buddy Rich on drums; and Jimmy Carroll as arranger and conductor.. Six master takes from this session comprised the album *Bird With Strings*: "*Just Friends*", "*Everything Happens to Me*", "*April in Paris*", "*Summertime*", "*I Didn't Know What Time It Was*", and "*If I Should Lose You*".

The sound of these recordings is unique in Bird's catalog. The lush string arrangements recall Tchaikovsky in their dramatic sweep, and the rhythm section provides a delicate swing under Bird's improvisation, blending perfectly with the orchestra. Parker's improvisations are, relative to his usual work, more distilled and economical. His tone is darker and softer than on his small-group recordings, and the majority of his lines are beautiful embellishments on the original melodies rather than harmonically based improvisations. He is always tasteful and brimming with eloquent expression.

These are among the few recordings Parker made during a brief period when he was able to control his heroin habit, and his sobriety and clarity of mind are evident in his playing. Parker stated that, of his own records, *Bird With Strings* was his favorite. While using classical music instrumentation with jazz musicians was not entirely original, this was the first major work where a composer of bebop was matched with a string orchestra.

Extract from Wikipedia biography of Charlie Parker
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charlie_Parker

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