

It's amazing how jazz has evolved in more or less 100 years and I know that all the jazz Greats up in the heavens must gather their holy energies and conspire to have us evolve even more and faster than before. Praise! The energy seems to work more than just a little bit when we listen to this cd. "Hidden Roots".

To quote Charles Mc Pherson we can say that jazz happened in the States but very quickly it happened and is happening full force all over the globe. Its alphabet and its vocabulary is constantly growing to tell us the passionate stories we can hear in different ways and fashions. For me it is a mindblowing and humbling experience to be in the company of so much new young talent in so many places. The African-American experience has blessed the whole world with the language of jazz we all have learned to master, speak and transmit properly by way of diverse cultural expressions.

Here we have Julia Karosi and her wonderful musicians from Hungary whose every song is a delicious short story and gives a new angle and insight by means of Hungarian lyrics we seem to understand because of their at once intricate and organic delivery showing us with gentle authority that any language can work in jazz music.

The compositions are beautifully and intelligently written and performed with great inspiration and will be a joy to the ear, of many I'm convinced, crossing the boundaries of jazz. It's high time to let different vocal expressions conquer the jazz market and this is another proof that we shouldn't miss out on the occasion.

The adventurous approach of the repertoire is done with so much taste that it keeps us constantly alert and has our full attention.

The vocals have a crystal quality with a very earthy edge to it so that the musicians and the singer Julia Karosi constantly form a coherent ensemble serving the music throughout the entire cd. Whether sung with or without lyrics, each song tells us its own story.

"Hidden Roots" is a "must have" and a "must listen to" and in my opinion deserves a special place in the world of vocal jazz! Sit back and enjoy!

David Linx