

Julia Karosi – HIDDEN ROOTS: Julia's second CD (though my first exposure to her wonderful singing) shows off some significant jazz vocal skills. Her sliding scat work on "Floating Island" will have you floating right along with her... the drums and percussion on this tune are superb, and mesh right in with all the other players. Unfortunately, the players in the quartet weren't listed in the promo sheet, but I can tell yhou that I absolutely *loved* the keyboard players work. The title cut, "Hidden Roots", has some very nice moments... sultry jazz that will melt in your mind. It was the 4:04 opener, "The Miraculous Deer", that won my vote as favorite track of the eleven offered up... all the instruments are highlighted, and you can hear that they just love playing together. This one is kind of a sleeper... I had only listened once before sitting down to write the review, but found Julia's voice simply stunning when I got back 'round to it. I give Julia & crew a MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, with an "EQ" (energy quotient) of 4.99. Get more information at the Dot Time Records page for this release.

(Rotcod Zzaj by Dick Metcalf)