

STREET DATE: Feb. 9, 2010

Antoinette MONTAGUE - BEHIND THE SMILE



Musicians: ANTOINETTE MONTAGUE - vocals; BILL EASLEY - sax, flute, clarinet; MULGREW MILLER - piano; PETER WASHINGTON - bass; KENNY WASHINGTON - drums

"Behind The Smile is a fitting start for this album because it represents how Antoinette Montague has a lot of things happening on many different levels. A jazz group accompanies her through a program of songs that ranges from the blues to soul to R&B to traditional pop to melodies by the great jazz composers. Ms. Montague's singing incorporates and draws on all these traditions without being tethered to any one of them. Obviously, if she had been born 30-40 years earlier, she would have sung with Buddy Johnson's band – no doubt!" — Will Friedwald

"Antoinette has the instrument, delivery and enunciation when performing that touches my soul."

— Jimmy Heath, National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master

Artist: ANTOINETTE MONTAGUE
Title: BEHIND THE SMILE

Label: ALLEGRO MUSIC / IN THE GROOVE

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Tracks:

- Behind The Smile [4:14]
 Antoinette Montague, musical notation by Bertha Hope
- 2. I Hadn't Anyone Till You [4:56] Ray Noble
- 3. Give Your Mama One Smile [3:35] Bill Broonzy
- **4. Ever Since The One I Love's Been Gone [4:46]**Buddy Woodrow Johnson
- 5. What's Going On [4:33]
 Marvin Gaye, Renaldo Enson & Al Cleveland
- 6. The Song Is You [3:12]

 Jerome Kern & Oscar Hammerstein II
- 7. I'd Rather Have A Memory Than A Dream [4:55] Leonard Feather & Bob Russell
- 8. Lost In Meditation [2:57]
 Duke Ellington, Irving Mills, Lou Singer & Juan Tizol
- 9. Get Ready [4:29] Smokey Robinson
- 10. Summer Song [4:22] Dave Brubeck
- 11. Somewhere In The Night [3:09]
 Billy May & Milton Raskin
- 12. Meet Me At No Special Place [4:01] Pyle, Robinson & Terker
- 13. 23rd Psalm [2:50]

 Duke Ellington

Produced by Kenny Washington Arrangements by Mulgrew Miller & Antoinette Montague

"She has a powerful voice, the ability to hold long notes without wavering, and a knack for making every song sound bluesy. Antoinette Montague's delivery is heartfelt, infectious and memorable." — Scott Yanow, Los Angeles Jazz Scene

"In this release, we are witnessing the development of an artist whose years of hard work is paying off. Antoinette turns up the soul, the swing and the blues! Antoinette achieves her wish to 'cast a wider net and put some R&B timeless tunes in a jazz context.' " — Sheila Anderson, Author & Radio Personality

"Working primarily in the jazz idiom, Antoinette shows she can take a song from any composer, any genre, and make it live-and-breathe as a jazz performance accessible to any audience. Antoinette sings classic jazz standards (new and old), resurrects lovely-but-obscure melodies, blends in blues and gospel through her vocal shadings, and puts entirely new jazz arrangements to material from other genres such as R&B, classic soul and pop."

— Randall Davis

Born and raised in Newark, Antoinette Montague released her first CD *Pretty Blues* in 2006 featuring Mulgrew Miller, Bill Easley, Keny Washington, and Peter Washington, a musical dream team. Antoinette Montague has appeared on the cover of *Jazz Improv's Jazz Guide* and on two book covers of *Who's Who in Jazz, Cabaret and Music (from 1600's to Now)*. She has performed at **Jazz at Lincoln Center's Dizzy's Club Coca Cola, Jazzmobile's Summer Breeze Concert Series**, the **Zebra Room** in Harlem's famous **Lenox Lounge**, the legendary **Blue Note**, the **Blue Smoke**:: **Jazz Standard** with the **Winard Harper Sextet** and **Dr. Billy Taylor**.

Following its release on February 9, 2010, Antoinette will be touring to promote "Behind the Smile" For tour dates in your area, or for more information, visit: www.antoinettemontague.com