

Song Review: Julie Slim & RendezVous - Sarabande de Solitude

Overall Impression: Blending french inspired jazz with wonderful elements of Moroccan and Algerian music styles, "Sarabande de Solitude" is a marvelously rich listening experience that includes sweeping melodies, passionate performances and a great sense of flair. Julie Slim & RendezVous paint a vividly detailed musical picture that is both mature in its themes and profound in its execution and it is hard to not admire the staggering level of musicality on display.

Strongest Point(s): The way different areas of world music have been woven together is sublime and really helps give the track its unique sense of personality and identity. The inclusion of Moroccan and Algerian-inspired elements is excellent and works very well when combined with the track's main jazz harmonic foundation. The Oud is one of the most expressive and tonally rich instruments there is and having the song open with it is a masterstroke in establishing the track's elegant and melodically mature nature. The lead vocal performance by Julie Slim is tremendously captivating and the way in which her vocals gracefully flow against the densely textured music that accompanies her is mesmerizing, to say the least. It's hard not to be taken by "Sarabande de Solitude" and its thoroughly engrossing qualities, and with performances and writing as nuanced as this, Julie Slim & RendezVous will undoubtedly endeavor to keep their staggeringly high musical standards going forward.

Target Audience Appeal: Lovers of world music will surely appreciate the diversity in styles that "Sarabande de Solitude" has to offer.

Artist target suggestions: Stacey Kent, Carla Bruni, Delicatessen, Enzo Enzo, Sidney Bechet, Charles Aznavour, Cecile Mclorin Salvant, Indila, Madeleine Peyroux, Melody Gardot

About The Reviewer: Andre Avanessian is a freelance session musician, composer, and sound engineer based in the U.K. Having studied music production and composition at a degree level, he has taken his passion for all things audio-related to a level that has allowed him to become both a competent musician and performer. Being a self-confessed "Guitar Nerd" Andre has been continually studying the guitar, as well as teaching it, helping students both learn the instrument, develop their songwriting, and how to become proficient in home recording.