



PRESS RELEASE



EUGEN CICERO Solo Piano • Debrecen Jazz Days

IOR CD 77073-2



1. Shiny Stockings (6:37)
2. Nancy (With The Laughing Face) (6:25)
3. Das Heidenröslein (5:08)
4. Sunny (5:33)
5. Erbarme Dich Mein Gott (6:17)
6. Les Feuilles Mortes (6:48)
7. Chopin Medley (4:37)
8. The Sheik Of Araby (4:32)
9. Gershwin Medley (7:41)
10. Glory Hallelujah (5:34)

Eugen Cicero - piano

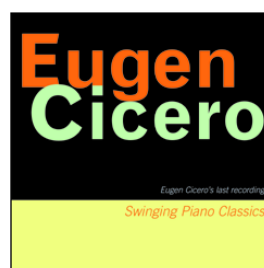
Three years ago, In + Out Records released a recording of the last concert of a giant of jazz. "Swinging Piano Classics", recorded at the Kursaal Überlingen in 1996, was a vivid reminder of the consummate piano artistry of the late Eugen Cicero, who gave a remarkable duo performance with his bass player, Decebal Badila. Now it comes as a very welcome surprise that another superb live recording has been discovered to add to the discography of the "man with the golden hands", who was the most successful artist on the MPS label.

It is thanks to a passionate collector that a recording from Cicero's heyday, which thought to have been lost, re-emerged in 2004. This unique recording is a real rarity, because the exceptional Romanian piano player guested at the Debrecen Jazz Days in Hungary with an extraordinary programme. "Solo Piano", which is now being released for all Cicero fans by In + Out, was Cicero's first and only solo recording.

As usual with Cicero, the repertoire is fine balance between exciting swing and jazzed up versions of classical pieces. There is the lyrical "Heidenroeslein" by Franz Schubert, with swinging re-harmonisations; an aria

from J.S. Bach's "St. Matthew Passion" is given a jazz transformation and a Chopin waltz receives a burlesque treatment. "Autumn Leaves", the world-renowned chanson, becomes an epic showcase for Cicero's improvisational talent. "The "Sheik Of Araby", by Irving Berlin's partner, Ted Snyder, dances boisterously and full of virtuosity on the keys, and, as grand finale, the highly-gifted Romanian treats us to a thrilling medley of Gershwin melodies. All in all, a precious reminder of a brilliant musician whose untimely in 1997 robbed the jazz world of a most enterprising and distinctive performer.

Also available on In+Out Records:



IOR CD 77047-2
Eugen Cicero
Swinging Piano Classics