



Stunt Records STUCD 10102

Hanne Boel - I THINK IT'S GOING TO RAIN

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Vielleicht ein stilles Meisterwerk? Hier erstrahlen u.a. Songs von Randy Newman, Rickie Lee Jones, Nick Cave and Steely Dan zu neuem Glanz – sehr reduziert und von einer beeindruckenden Stimme interpretiert.

After touring extensively for several years with the funk band Blast, Hanne Boel's career took an explosive jump forward in 1988 with her first soul album. The first of the following fourteen solo releases was hugely successful, and she has topped the Scandinavian charts several times since.

Shortly before, in 1987, Boel had a little jazz flirt on SHADOW OF LOVE, an album recorded with pianist Jørgen Emborg, bassist Mads Vinding and drummer Alex Riel. The record was released on a new label called Stunt Records and over the years, while no one was watching, slowly but surely it went gold. 23 years later, Boel and Stunt Records have re-established our collaboration with I THINK IT'S GOING TO RAIN.

But this album does not attempt to revive the music from back then. On I THINK IT'S GOING TO RAIN a self-confident Hanne Boel draws on the experience of a long career in one of the most challenging of formats: singing to the (almost) sole accompaniment of a piano, with no horn arrangements, sweaty grooves or imposing musicians to hide behind.

Simplicity is the keyword in describing Hanne Boel's new, stripped down landmark of an album. Naked, unaffected, painfully honest and no monkey business.

In the middle of Norway's beautiful nature, in the legendary Rainbow Studio with the world famous sound wizard Jan Erik Kongshaug working the soundboard, and Denmark's best pianist Carsten Dahl at the grand piano, conditions were perfect for the popular vocalist. In these surroundings, with a batch of carefully chosen songs, with her experience, her maturity, her fine interpretive powers and personal voice, Hanne Boel created touching musical moments to warm us on a rainy day.

It doesn't get much simpler or more beautiful than this. This project is a musically obligating collaboration involving two creative souls, two musicians with respect for the other's means of expression. Four of the album's eleven tracks are enhanced by Butch Lacey's subtle arrangements for string trio – angel dust underlining the character of each song, offering gentle interplay.

Disregarding genres, Hanne Boel has chosen a string of songs that she loves. You will find pop, soul and jazz tunes here, written by Randy Newman, Rickie Lee Jones, Nick Cave and Steely Dan and interspersed without stylistic prejudice with a couple of great jazz standards, Blame It On My Youth and I Fall In Love Too Easily, and rounded off with Hanne's own Last Goodbye.

I Think It's Going To Rain / Mad World / Years May Go By / Blame It On My Youth / Moon On My Shoulder / Smile / Sometimes I'm Happy / Into My Arms / I Fall In Love Too Easily / Showbizz People / Last Goodbye

Hanne Boel (voc), Carsten Dahl (p), Tobias Durholm (v), Tue Lautrup (viola), Johan Krarup (cello).