



FEDERICO BERTELLI QUARTET (feat. Nicola Stilo)

“LIVING”

Federico Bertelli | harmonica

Piergiorgio Pirro | piano

Gabriele Evangelista | doublebass

Stefano Tamborrino | drums

Living, released in July 2015 by Jando Music/Via Veneto Jazz is the latest project of Federico Bertelli, a uniquely talented and highly-appreciated chromatic harmonica player. The album's tracks carry sounds reminiscent of the colours and the warm atmospheres of Central and South America, among which is the Brazilian Choir *Caruiquinha* (W. Acevedo), Chucho Valdes' rhumba *Claudia*, as well as Bertelli's original compositions such as *Living* and *Waiting*. Particularly compelling is the tender ballad *Soul Eyes* (Mel Waldron) and *Funk In Deep Freeze* (Hank Mobley), a tribute to bebop's complex harmonic ideas and rhythms, requiring sound instrumental technique; similar to the discipline required to master a complex instrument such as the chromatic harmonica.

Federico Bertelli does not appear to be hindered by any such complexities and has long since demonstrated to have embraced a level of improvisation which musicians aspire to attain: where melodies form as spontaneously as thoughts and are voiced by the instrument as fluidly as speech. As with all great musicians, Bertelli has a ferocious attention to detail together with an extraordinary intensity denoting passion and depth.

Noteworthy are the guest musicians who participated in this recording and eminently enriching the project: pianist Piergiorgio Pirro with his exquisitely refined arrangements, Gabriele Evangelista with the warm, enveloping sound of his double bass, the subtle and sophisticated rhythm of the drummer Stefano Tamborrino, extraordinary flutist Nicola Stilo and Roberto Rossi's lush trombone solos in the songs *Funk in Deep Freeze*, and *Waiting*.

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