

Cheryl Fisher

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London, England

CHERYL FISHER
Too Late To Hurry
Royalty Records

By Earl Okin

There's a fine line for jazz singers to tread between instantly recognized individuality and contrived gimmickry. Too many recent young singers have stepped unwarily across that line. They should listen to Cheryl Fisher and learn! I heard Miss Fisher a few years ago when she was in London and immediately recognized a unique "voice". If she was good then, she's even better now.

This new CD mixes a series of classic but not over-performed standards with some poetry-based, self-penned new songs, with accompaniments ranging from a sextet down to solo backing group she's chosen some young musicians whom I didn't know but perhaps I ought to have done. They're good! Pitched in what I might call the Modern-mainstream style, this expensive sounding CD should appeal to Jazz lovers of all but extreme tastes. Despite the studio-based nature of this collection, one is given the impression of a bunch of professionals having fun together. Nevertheless, despite all the talent on display here, what stays with you afterwards is the smoky, vulnerable yet surprisingly resilient voice of Cheryl Fisher, her musicality of phrasing and the warmth of personality that comes through everything she does.

My advice is – buy this CD and play it to study, to enjoy, to dance to or to play behind that romantic dinner...but play it! And, when it comes to an end just press the replay button—because you'll want to.

Cheryl