

## **Maja Christina Romance**

If I were Maja Christina, I would send a signed CD to the songwriters of the covered songs. I bet that a couple of them would react. In Germany the concept to transform well known Pop songs into Jazz-Arrangements has also been successfully marketed by the "Lisa Bassenge Trio". This concept can be carried out well or bad. Maja Christina has done it in an excellent manner. Suzanne Vegas "Tom's Diner", Aaron Neville's "Yellow Moon", the well known "I can't stand the rain" and especially Neil Young's "Heart of Gold" have been modernized in a very astonishing and jazzy way. The way Maja Christina deals with "pseudo holy" material is pretty daring. In any case "Romance" is an album which will bring happiness and more not only to Jazz hearts.

## **Concert Austrian Jazz Magazine**

The remarkable young musician's voice is strong in its expression and sensual at the same time. Her intonation is extraordinary and she swings.

With a hit of Fats Waller she is seeking to compete with the Famous in her business and she really does not have to be anxious being blamed by the comparison. Her version of Honeysuckle Rose is just great. Maja Christina's success can best be explained with her extraordinary voice and her very professional accompanists. With Pascal Graf on drums, Emanuel Schnyder on bass and Roland Köppel on piano, she is accompanied by an excellent rhythm group.

The repertoire Maja Christina presents in her debut album demonstrates her willingness to find new ways. In addition to her own compositions and Jazz standards she interprets a couple of pop songs of the last years illustrating that the so called Great American Songbook has not yet been finished.

*Beat Blaser and Christoph Schwegler*  
**Swiss Radio DRS 2**

Finally, a young vocalist knows to impress with her debut album. She stands out from the almost inflationary female singers presenting CD's of a mediocre quality. The young singer Maja Christina who is living in the surroundings of Basel, Switzerland, is basically interpreting standards. As one knows this is a difficult task because of everybody's ability to criticise the protagonist's talent. She renounces of alienation effects but nevertheless knows how to label every song with an own character.

Her extraordinary feeling as well as her musicality can best be understood by the fact that all her arrangements are made by herself. She has not only composed two titles but has also written the lyrics. Sound, timbre, articulation, security in intonation as well as scat vocals give a precise impression of the considerable quality of her music. She has also evaluated a very professional ensemble. The trombonist Schlegel is acting in a really extraordinary manner.

Johannes Anders

## **Jazz'n'more Swiss Jazz and Blues Magazine**

Romance is a breezy, light album.

## **Bieler Tagblatt**

I listened to the CD Romance of Maja Christina and I liked it very much, in every aspect.

**Peter Schmidlin TCB Montreux**