



JUNE BISANTZ & ALEX NAKHIMOVSKY

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LOVE'S TANGO *new release 01/19* **JUNE BISANTZ & ALEX NAKHIMOVSKY**

Genre | Latin Jazz Vocal | Bossa Nova/Samba
 Available @ | cdbaby.com

National Promotion | Kari-on Productions
 706-993-2223 | kari@karigaffney.com

Booking | U.S. | junebisantz@mac.com
 860-423-4443 | junebisantz.com

Japan & Asia | Music Pocket | Masakazu Fujii
 +81-90-1407-3332 | fujii@t3.rim.or.jp

Vocalist **JUNE BISANTZ** has co-written and produced several collections of original vocal jazz, all of which have received national recognition. She has toured internationally, and performed and recorded with distinguished jazz musicians including Steve Swallow, Bob Moses, Paul Brown, Lew Soloff, Jerry Neiwood, Mike Stern, Steve Davis & Will Lee. Reviews and articles about her work have appeared in publications including People Magazine, USA Today, JazzQuad.Ru, Jazziz Magazine, Jazz Podium Magazine, Jazz USA, the New York Times, New York Newsday & the Boston Globe.

Bisantz' critically acclaimed 2012 release, *It's Always You*, paid tribute to the vocal work of the legendary Chet Baker. Her current release **LOVE'S TANGO**, co-authored with pianist/ composer Alex Nakhimovsky, signals her return to original music with a collection of Latin inspired songs about love in all its many forms.

Pianist and composer **ALEX NAKHIMOVSKY**, enjoys a versatile career as a performer, recording artist, producer, composer and educator. His musical accomplishments as a jazz and classical artist include musical direction, arranging, solo and ensemble performances. He has toured throughout the United States, Russia, Japan and Israel, performing with jazz legends Benny Golson, Jackie McLean, Jimmy Cobb, Valery Ponomarev, Sheila Jordan, Curtis Fuller, Victor Bailey and Grammy-nominated artists Bill Evans, Jazzmeia Horn & Rene Marie.

In **LOVE'S TANGO**, Bisantz (lyrics) & Nakhimovsky (music) have created a body of work that *"revels in the joys of life, finding pleasure in the simple luxury of being surrounded by upbeat music."* Susan Frances, *Jazz 2 Love*

Ms. Bisantz is also Professor Emeritus of Art & Design at Eastern Connecticut State University and has exhibited her visual art work in galleries, museums and public spaces throughout the United States.

LOVE'S TANGO is a collection of original latin/jazz songs co-written by June Bisantz & Alexander Nakhimovsky. Bisantz & Nakhimovsky have recorded, performed and toured together since 2005. This is their third recording project together and first writing collaboration.

The CD features three bossa novas, two sambas, a Rachmaninoff-inspired string quartet prelude and one unique tango, from which the project gets its name. Featured along with the many accomplished musicians on this recording, are renowned trombonist Steve Davis and smooth jazz guitarist Norman Johnson.

LOVE'S TANGO celebrates the many ways we experience love - romantically, exuberantly and philosophically - with the Latin rhythms, classical ideas and jazz improvisations that characterize all things Tango.

"What sets this collaboration apart are the originals...There is a depth to these songs that goes beyond the standard songbook... the leaders have created refined originals that stand out as lasting pieces."

Stamish Malcuss,
 Jazz Sensibilities

"June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky make a terrific team...They're both in top form in this new album of original Latin/jazz songs. The duo delivers, with vibrancy, sensitivity and charm. An air of breezy romance flows through this winning new album from Bisantz and Nakhimovsky.."

Paul Freeman,
 Pop Culture Classics

*Listen @ souncloud.com/junebisantz
 Watch @ vimeo.com/channels/lovestango*



*June Bisantz, Tokyo, Japan
Norman Johnson, guitar; Alex Nakhimovsky, piano*



*June Bisantz, Waterbury Palace Theater, CT
Alex Nakhimovsky, piano; Matt Dwonszyk, bass; Gabor Viragh, trumpet;
Ben Belillo, drums; Rich Goldstein, guitar*

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Articulated Reviews

POP ROCK COUNTRY BLUES WORLD CLASSICAL JAZZ ELECTRONICA

JUNE BISANTZ & ALEX NAKHIMOVSKY, LOVE'S TANGO REVIEW

by Adorjan Horvat on January 14, 2019

JAZZ

CONTENTS Full Article Overview Rating Comments

FULL REVIEW

June Bisantz & Alex Nakhimovsky, Love's Tango Review



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What is better than one creative mind, well two of course. Co-leaders June Bisantz, a lauded vocalist and pianist Alex Nakhimovsky have come together to create a decisively Latin flavored casting of original compositions that are inventive as well as artistic, while still maintaining a deeply musical vehicle. Bisantz has creativity in her bones, a Professor Emeritus of Art & Design at Eastern Connecticut State University her works have been exhibited in galleries, museums and public spaces throughout the United States is this unique purview that gives Bisantz her highly creative phrasing and refined style. Nakhimovsky is a seasoned professional in classical as well as jazz idioms. He has extensively toured the United States, Russia, Japan and Israel. Both artists have enjoyed fruitful careers and out of their joint love of writing *Love's Tango* was born. The co-leaders are joined by Norman Johnson – guitar; Matt Dwonszyk – bass; Brunilda Myrtaraj – violin; Lu San – viola; Kathy Schiano – cello; Marcus Centola – accordion; John Mastroianni – flute, clarinet, saxophone; Jeff Holmes – trumpet/flugelhorn; Steve Davis – trombone; E Fast – drums, vibraphone and percussion.

Available on amazon

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Bisantz has...a unique purview that gives us her highly creative phrasing and refined style. Nakhimovsky is a seasoned professional in classical as well as jazz idioms.

The instrumentation of Love's Tango is exotic and beautifully executed. The use of strings on selections like "This Reverie," "A Wish That Came True," and "Ocean Dreams," add a lush sonic-scape that reinforces the sultry moods of each tune. Whereas "11 Note Samba," and "Its' You," offer a lively easy going feel.

Bisantz has an easy-going alto style with a low burn sensuality that percolates with assuredness and sophistication...Nakhimovsky is genius with his colorizations of the melodies. Delightfully witty lyrics, paired with music that enlivens the senses and lightens your heart. An engaging listen from start to finish, Love's Tango is a recording of urbanity and splendor.

*Staccatofy
Adorjan Horvat*

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Jazz Sensibilities
Stamish Malcuss

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June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky | Love's Tango



PORTED BY: ADMIN MAY 10, 2019
by Stamish Malcuss



The collaboration of June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky melds two magnificently creative souls into a distinctly Latin tinged album titled *Love's Tango*. As one would expect the album is filled with bossa, samba and tango, but what this album offers is not the usual Brazilian songbook, it is adorned with original compositions by Bisantz and Nakhimovsky. Though they have recorded together in the past, *Love's Tango* signals their first writing collaboration of all originals together. They are joined by Norman Johnson on guitar; Matt Dwonszyk on bass; Brunilda Myftaraj on violin; Lu San on viola; Kathy Schiano on cello; Marcus Centola on accordion; John Mastroianni on flute, clarinet, sax; Jeff Holmes on trumpet/flugelhorn; Steve Davis on trombone and Ed Fast on drums, vibraphone & percussion. The result is an enduring listen that you will cherish for years to come.

The album kicks off with "This Reverie," its flavoring is reminiscent of Diana Krall's *The Look of Love* album in 2001, that featured easy going gentle bossas. What sets this collaboration between Bisantz and Nakhimovsky apart is their originals. Equally, Bisantz like Krall has an unassuming voice that is sweetly pleasing and Nakhimovsky's delicate touch is flawless, he has a stylistic beauty to his play that shimmers.

The album is not all bossa's and strings with sensual Latin guitar, on the title track "Love's Tango," the tune takes a distinctive Spanish overtone. Complete with castanets provided by Ed Fast, and the not often used accordion by Marcus Centola, the ensemble beautifully pays homage to the long tradition of tango. The beauty of the dance is immediately felt with the rhythms and lyrics. You are transported to the dance floor and relish in the reverence of the tango. Bisantz is once again simply delightful in her delivery, stylish with a hint of provocative sophistication, that simply fits the chic of the tune.

There is a depth to the songs on *Love's Tango* that goes beyond the standard songbook, the dual leaders have created refined originals that stand out as lasting pieces. This is a welcomed addition for anyone who enjoys a relaxing, yet slow burning listen with top-shelf performances. *Love's Tango* is the antidote to any long day. Relax, unwind and drink in the beauty of the *Love's Tango*.

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*The collaboration of June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky melds two magnificently creative souls into a distinctly Latin tinged album titled *Love's Tango*. As one would expect the album is filled with bossa, samba and tango, but what this album offers is not the usual Brazilian songbook, it is adorned with original compositions by Bisantz and Nakhimovsky. Though they have recorded together in the past, *Love's Tango* signals their first writing collaboration. The result is an enduring listen that you will cherish for years to come. What sets this collaboration apart are the originals. Bisantz like Diana Krall has an unassuming voice that is sweetly pleasing and Nakhimovsky's delicate touch is flawless, his playing shimmers. The album's title track "Love's Tango," ... complete with castanets and the not often used accordion...beautifully pays homage to the long tradition of tango. Bisantz is once again simply delightful in her delivery, stylish with a hint of provocative sophistication, that fits the chic of the tune.*

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recent **REVIEWS**

In my mind, the Tango is somehow a type of Latin based, or Samba based musical style. And okay, maybe some measure of jazz thrown in as well. Titles can be deceiving, however. In the latest release from June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky, they deliver a work that combines soft, melodic, jazz themes with, a Rachmaninoff inspired string section and overall, a magnificent work. Make no mistake, this is a sweet, soft, Sunday morning, lazy breakfast type of music. Or a romantic evening at home.

Somehow, this duo, who has been writing and performing together since 2005, manages to combine Latin rhythms, jazz, classical, and soft, easy listening music into a group of seven songs that are sure to please.

Bisantz has a terrific voice and one that seems perfectly suited for this style of music. Nakhimovsky is a force on the piano and his skills are no less apparent than the vocal abilities of his partner. Put this on and get lost in romance.

“June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky, deliver a work that combines soft, melodic, jazz themes with a Rachmaninoff inspired string section - a magnificent work... Put this on and get lost in romance.”

*Audiophile
Paul Wilson*

Audiophile review.com

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New Music

By Paul Wilson | March 29, 2019 6:00 AM



June Bisantz & Alex Nakhimovsky - "Love's Tango" - EH2U

In my mind, musically, the Tango is somehow a type of Latin based, or Samba based musical style. And okay, maybe some measure of jazz thrown in as well. Titles can be deceiving, however. In the latest release from June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky, they deliver a work that combines soft, melodic, jazz themes with, at times anyway, a Rachmaninoff inspired string section and overall, a magnificent work. Make no mistake, this is a sweet, soft, Sunday morning, lazy breakfast type of music. Or a romantic evening at home. Yet somehow, this duo, who has been writing and performing together since 2005, manages to combine Latin rhythms, jazz, classical, and soft, easy listening music into a group of seven songs that are sure to please. Bisantz has a terrific voice and one that seems perfectly suited for this style of music. Nakhimovsky is a force on the piano and his skills are no less apparent than the vocal abilities of his partner. Put this on and get lost in romance.



RECENT *reviews*

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*Jazz 2 Love
Susan Frances*

*"This recording revels in
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jazz2love

A place to find all types of jazz-related music and artists.

Wednesday, January 2, 2019

Album Review: Love's Tango from June Bisantz & Alexander Nakhimovsky

Album: Love's Tango

Artist: June Bisantz & Alexander Nakhimovsky

Label: EH2U

Websites: <https://www.junebisantz.com>

<http://alexnakhimovsky.com>

Love's *Tango*'s repertoire is comprised of original jazz-inspired, Latin-induced melodies co-written by June Bisantz and Alexander Nakhimovsky. From silky bossa nova arias to jamboree-style sambas, a compelling tango, and a steamy Rachmaninoff-influenced prelude, the recording revels in the joys of life, finding pleasure in the simple luxury of being surrounded by upbeat music.



The romantic lure of the swirling strings woven swiftly along "Prelude To a Wish" is the recording's moment to pay homage to the classical composer Rachmaninoff. Performed by Brunilda Myftaraj on violin, Lu San on viola and Kathy Schiano on cello, the tune is a garden bed of delightful sprigs, glimmering with an elegance that piques the audience's attention.

The CD commences with the gently breezy vapors of "A Wish That Came True," catacomb by the wispy tendrils of Norman Johnson's guitar strings and twinkling vibrations emanating from the leisurely stroll of Nakhimovsky's keys. The island sway in the rhythm pulse of Ed Fast's drums and Matt Dwonszyk's bass has a hypnotic touch on the listener.

Continuing to enchant the listener, the title track is silhouette in Marcus Centola's slinky accordion whirls and the graceful flutter of Myftaraj's violin strings, branding the melody in a confluence of folkloric and sophisticated features. The tango rhythm bodes well with Bisantz's registration and vocal strides.

Shifting again into bossa nova terrain, "Ocean Dreams" has a dreamy feel reminiscent of Antonio Carlos Jobim's "The Girl from Ipanema." The island-tinged instrumentation whisks the listener to a serene plane as Bisantz's smooth voicing caresses the downy bossa nova swells. Meanwhile, a samba strut canvasses "It's You" in a festive mood, traversing into the willowy bossa nova emanations of "The Reverie."

The repertoire on *Love's Tango* is contained within the confines of the Latin-influenced spectrum but such restraints do not diminish its appeal. The music is lovely and Bisantz's vocals are evenly tempered, which reels the listener into a peaceful state of being.

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Pop Culture Classics' Recommended CDs, DVDs and Books

By Paul Freeman

CDs



JUNE BISANTZ & ALEX NAKHIMOVSKY - "LOVE'S TANGO"

June Bisantz (vocals, lyrics) and Alex Nakhimovsky (piano, music, arrangements) make a terrific team. They have been recording and touring together since 2005 and their chemistry is obvious. They're both in top form in this new album of original Latin/jazz songs. Whether delivering a samba, tango, bossa nova tune or Rachmaninoff-influenced string quartet prelude, the duo delivers, with vibrancy, sensitivity and charm.

Delights include "This Reverie," "Prelude to a Wish," "Love's Tango" "Ocean Dreams," "It's You" and the exquisite "A Wish That Came True." Strings and the work of such outstanding musicians as guitarist Norman Johnson perfectly enhance the twosome's musical vision. An air of breezy romance flows through this winning new album from Bisantz and Nakhimovsky.

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Jazz Weekly

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REVIEWS

June Bisantz & Alex Nakhimovsky: Love Tango

by [George W. Harris](#) • February 18, 2019 • [0 Comments](#)

Rich toned vocalist and classy pianist Alex Nakhimovsky lead a 4 member rhythm team, 3 member string section and horn section respectively through a breezy collection of irresistible sambas and beyond.

Romantic Brazilian pulses are delivered sweetly by Bisantz through a mix of samba and strings on "This Reverie, while Middle East percussion goes to South America on a peppy "Eleven Note Samba" and suave "It's You," the latter featuring some hip guitar work by Norman Johnson riding the surf of Matt Dwonszyk's bass. The strings give a rich parlor mood on "Prelude to a Wish" and crate an ocean form for Steve Davis' trombone on with Bisantz and Nakhimovsky in a sensuous mood for "Ocean Dreams." Some gypsy flavors take you to a campfire with violin and guitar sauntering with Bisantz on the celebratory title track whereas the co-leaders show that they can get into a restrained mood on the lovely and deliciously tender "A Wish That Came True." A strong outing with new South American sounds.



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Some gypsy flavors take you to a campfire with violin and guitar sauntering with Bisantz on the celebratory title track whereas the co-leaders show that they can get into a restrained mood on the lovely and deliciously tender "A Wish That Came True." A strong outing with new South American sounds."

"June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky are equally skilled artists, who have both enjoyed vibrant careers. Bisantz discography was illuminated with the 2012 release of It's Always You, a collection inspired by the vocal work of the legendary Chet Baker...Her latest release is a collaboration with jazz/classical pianist and composer Nakhimovsky titled, Love's Tango. A delightful collection of original music all pinioned in the Latin genre and offering appreciably well-hewn lyrics and melodies about love, with a focal on musicality. A highlight track on the album is "11 Note Samba," a fun and flirty tune that offers a celebratory sound...Bisantz has a soothing easy-going style about her singing, with darkly hued resonance that is rounded and curved with savoir vivre. The title track "Love's Tango," is a delectably exotic listen... A tango, as the title suggests, brought to life with castanets and the incisive dexterity of accordionist Marcus Centola. Of note is the effortless sophistication of Nakhimovsky's compositional writing. Nakhimovsky's arranging and writing skills, coupled with Bisantz well-crafted lyrics is inspired. At times their writing is so polished it's easy to forget how harmonically complex and imbued these tunes really are, as you find yourself swept away by the emotions of the songs."

All About Vocals
J. Pepper




Home / June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky, Love's Tango

June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky, Love's Tango

© January 29, 2019 Editor



by J. Pepper



June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky are equally skilled artists, who have both enjoyed vibrant careers. Bisantz discography was illuminated with the 2012 release of *It's Always You*. A collection inspired by the vocal work of the legendary Chet Baker, it featured both familiar and obscure Baker songs spanning the course of his career. Her latest release is a collaboration with jazz and classical pianist and composer Nakhimovsky titled, *Love's Tango*. A delightful collection of original music all pinioned in the Latin genre and offering appreciably well-hewn lyrics and melodies about love, with a focal on musicality.

A highlight track on the album is "11 Note Samba," a fun and flirty tune that offers a celebratory sound. A play on "One Note Samba," Bisantz has cleverly crafted lyrics that immediately bring a cheer to your soul. Guitarist Norman Johnson known widely in the smooth jazz genre, puts forth a stunning nylon strung solo, while vibraphonist Ed Fast glides effortlessly across the keys uplifting the spirit of the track. Bisantz has a soothing easy-going style about her singing, with darkly hued resonance on the bottom notes that are rounded and curved with savoir vivre. One cannot help but feel refreshed after listening to this delightful tune.

The title track "Love's Tango," is a delectably exotic listen. A tango, as the title suggests is brought to life with castanets and the incisive dexterity of accordionist Marcus Centola. The lush strings of Brunilda Myrtaraj on violin, Lu San on viola and Kathy Schiano on cello add a refinement to the melody. Of note is the effortless sophistication of Nakhimovsky's compositional writing. A co-creator on these tracks, his arranging and writing skills, coupled with Bisantz well-crafted lyrics is inspired. At times their writing is so polished its easy to forget how harmonically complex and imbued these tunes really are, as you find yourself swept away by the emotions of the songs.

The Valentine holiday is quickly approaching, and *Love's Tango* is certainly a welcomed soundtrack to what is reported to be one of the largest holidays of the year. Bisantz and Nakhimovsky are inspired on this album, their chemistry is ripe with creativity and iridescent with posh and elegance. Whether gearing up for the holiday or looking for a respite from the stress of the week, *Love's Tango* will set your mood on the right path. A welcomed reverie.

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"Nakhimovsky's arranging and writing skills, coupled with Bisantz well-crafted lyrics is inspired"

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The Vinyl Anachronist

Thursday, February 14, 2019

June Bisantz & Alex Nakhimovsky's Love's Tango



Marc Phillips

Additional music reviews from the Managing Editor of The Occasional Magazine. [View my complete profile](#)

There's a happy little place in the music section of my brain where I really respond to tropical jazz, that smooth yet enormous sound that floats along with the tradewinds, that stuff made so popular in the '50s and '60s by people like Martin Denny and Henry Mancini. The perfect trigger for me, for this kind of connection, is Mancini's "Lush," which I'd never heard until I watched the 2000 film *Sexy Beast* with the amazing Ben Kingsley. Or perhaps Annette Bening's character in *American Beauty* playing an old recording of "Bali Haï" during dinner also evokes that same sense of adventure, coupled with a supreme sense of being at rest while enjoying the spoils.

Singer June Bisantz and pianist Alex Nakhimovsky have toured together since 2005. They also love a lot of the same things--classical music, for instance, and Latin rhythms. The first few minutes of this new album is directed right at the heart of the world of tango, which shouldn't be a surprise, but you'll start to hear those same shifts in the music, toward Mancini and Denny, and that's when those emotional connections are made and it all sounds so lush and beautiful. Actually, it sounds *Lush and Beautiful*, because this is the type of music I think about when I hear those two words. Remember the old Calgon bubble bath commercials? Like that.



It's the classical training this duo shares--they both played violins as "their first instrument"--that really stretches out that gorgeous Tahitian sunset, the one that was filmed in Technicolor. Bisantz's voice is smooth, mellow and beckoning--by that last word I mean that she's calling out to you to pack your bags and come along. Nakhimovsky's piano is stolid and provides that stability for the soloists to shine--Norman Johnson's guitar, winning horn and string sections

and Ed Fast's amazing support on all sorts of percussion. The perspective can shift depending on Bisantz--it moves in close when she's singing, and then it pulls away and spreads out when she steps back to enjoy the solos.

Love's Tango really sails when all decks are on hand, and I promise to stop using nautical terms after that. But that's the essence of this music, the big string sections, the sound of musical notes skipping along the tops of waves, the feeling of that warm wind across your face. That's not a bad thing in the middle of winter. I warned you that that a lot of tango was coming this way, and it was going to be "a thing" in 2019. Now I'm just wondering if it's a seasonal thing, a way to comfort jazz fans and get them through the winter in one piece. I see no problem with that; it's working.

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*Vinyl Anachronist
Marc Phillips,
Managing Editor, the Occasional Magazine*

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02/08/19

JUNE BISANTZ & ALEX NAKHIMOVSKY/Love's Tango: A dandy odd duck of a release that finds two solid jazzbos teaming up for an original set of bossa based tunes with an unmistakable authentic feel. Stretching the boundaries of a well worn format that's recently celebrated it's 50th birthday, it's obviously a solid sound that welcomes all with something to bring to the table. The kind of music that's getting the jump on summer and trying to do it's part to chase the polar vortex away, can Sea Breezes and dental floss bikinis be far behind? Quite the luscious taste treat.
(EH2U)

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JUNE BISANTZ & ALEX NAKHIMOVSKY/Love's Tango:

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Quite the luscious taste treat. “

*Midwest Record
Chris Spector, Editor&Publisher*

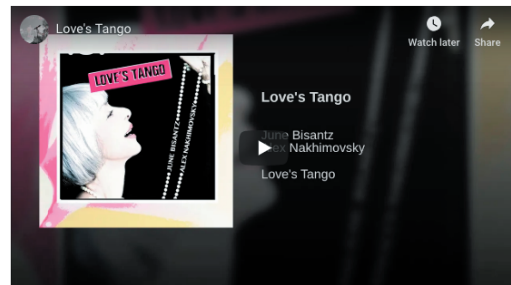
recent REVIEWS

LEMON WIRE HOME MUSIC MOVIES CONCERTS SOCIAL EVENTS WIRE

June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky present a lively album of jazz and Latin styles

By Dodie Miller-Gould - February 1, 2019

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June Bisantz and pianist Alex Nakhimovsky have been playing together since 2005. The pair wrote all the songs on this year's recording that was made available to the public Jan. 18. The gentle Latin rhythms are expounded upon with Bisantz's vocal stylings and Nakhimovsky's emotive piano work.

About June Bisantz

Even before knowing that Bisantz has a background in visual arts, audiences can hear the color of the songs she sings. In addition to color, there is also texture. Bisantz is Professor Emeritus of Art and Design at Eastern Connecticut University State University. Her visual art has been exhibited in museums, galleries and other public spaces throughout the United States.

In regard to music, Bisantz has co-written and produced several collection of original vocal jazz, all of which has garnered attention from critics across the US. Her musical career also includes working with some luminaries from the world of jazz. Articles about Bisantz's music have appeared in People Magazine, USA Today, Jazziz Magazine, Jazz Today, The New York Times and several others. Among those Bisantz has worked with are Steve Swallow, Bob Moses, Paul Brown, Lew Soloff.

About Alex Nakhimovsky

Pianist Alex Nakhimovsky has toured internationally. He works as a performer, recording artist, producer, composer and educator. Nakhimovsky works in both classical music and jazz.

Nakhimovsky's work has taken him to Russia, Japan and Israel, in addition to the United States. Like his collaborator, Bisantz, Nakhimovsky's work has included projects and performances with jazz legends such as Benny Golson, Jimmy Cobb, Curtis Fuller, Bill Evans, Jazmeia Horn and Rene Marie among other. He is currently co-founder and artistic director of the BSBI Jazz Festival in Manchester, Connecticut.

The sound of "Love's Tango" by June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky

The songs that Bisantz and Nakhimovsky bring to life have not only color -- the sounds they create can make audiences think of pastels, but the songs have texture as well. Certain listeners will easily see swirling pastel tulle and jersey fabrics.

The songs are emotive and intimate. They invite leaning forward and gaining an understanding of how the songs are put together.

The songs are invariably about love, but the approach is a bit different depending on the song. The sound elements of accordion and strings add an emotional and dramatic flair to songs such as the title track, "Love's Tango."

Bisantz and Nakhimovsky are joined by an eclectic and busy ensemble to help them round out the soundscape of "Love's Tango." With guitar, bass, violin, viola, cello, accordion, flute, clarinet, sax, trumpet, flugelhorn, trombone, drums, vibraphone and percussion.

The sound of "Love's Tango" the song evokes the sound of Italy, due in no small part to the number of instruments used to give the song a rich sound.

"This Reverie" is another song on the album that transports listeners by virtue of sound that feels as though it is imbued with color and movement. Bisantz's voice is richly textured and stronger than audiences might believe it to be. There is a slightly breathy quality to her lower register voice. However, it becomes clear that Bisantz is in control of her voice. And just when it seems like the soundscape might overwhelm the vocals, Bisantz's voice shines through and it does not sound as if she is straining.

Released just a couple of weeks ago, "Love's Tango" brings to mind warm climes, dancing, sophisticated people, and might even remind some listeners of pop jazz group, Swing Out Sister.

While the Arctic Blast takes over the US, for jazz fans, there is the comfort of warm-sounding music to transport them to faraway, romantic places. The work of Bisantz and Nakhimovsky is the kind of music to do that.

"Love's Tango's Latin rhythms are expounded upon with Bisantz's vocal stylings and Nakhimovsky's emotive piano work.

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LemonWire

Dodie Miller-Gould

"Love's Tango" brings to mind warm climes, dancing and sophisticated people.."

RECENT *reviews*

“Love’s Tango is popping with sparkling melodies & outstanding performances.”

Sound In Review



The screenshot shows the SIR JAZZ website with a navigation bar for various music genres. The main article is titled "June Bisantz & Alex Nakhimovsky: Love's Tango Review" by SHANNON SMITH, dated May 30, 2013. It includes a "NOW READING" section with a video player for "Love's Tango" and a "CONTENTS" sidebar with links to the full article, overview, rating, and comments. Below the video is a photo of the duo performing. The article text describes the album as a Latin slanted release with sparkling melodies and outstanding performances, highlighting the collaboration between the two talented writers.

SIR JAZZ SOUND in REVIEW

Rock Pop Country Blues Classical Electronic Jazz World

June Bisantz & Alex Nakhimovsky: Love's Tango Review

By SHANNON SMITH
May 30, 2013

NOW READING
June Bisantz & Alex Nakhimovsky: Love's Tango Review

CONTENTS
Full Article
Overview
Rating
Comments

Full Article
Overview
Rating
Comments

June Bisantz and Alex Nakhimovsky are not new to the recording game. Bisantz' 2012 release, *It's Always You*, inspired by the vocal work of the legendary Chet Baker, featured both familiar and obscure Baker songs spanning the course of his career. Pianist, Nakhimovsky with award winning Joe Hiseishi's New Japan Philharmonic Orchestra in Tokyo was recorded and released on the Universal label as *American in Paris* in 2005. Later that year, Nakhimovsky toured with the Orchestra, performing in Japan's major concert halls. As co-producer of Russia's Baikal Waves International Jazz Festival since 2006, Nakhimovsky has made cross-cultural connections for several Russian Music Festivals, bringing important international artists such as Tania Maria, Richard Bona, Mike Stern, Jeff Tain Watts and Jeff Lorber to Russia. He is currently co-founder and artistic director of the BSB Jazz Festival in Manchester, CT.

Together Bisantz and Nakhimovsky have collaborated a deliciously Latin slanted release titled *Love's Tango* that features melodies by Nakhimovsky and lyrics by Bisantz. Modeled after the Latin songbook, the duo takes things a step further with unique instrumentation of violin, viola, cello, accordion, flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone and even vibraphone adding to the cultural richness of the sonics. Certainly, Nakhimovsky's classical background lends to the voicings and rich colorizations.

Bisantz has an entrancing voice, its deep and also opulently hued, with an alto tonality that adds to the sensuality of the lyrics, which she is fully committed to. Her lyric content is full of strong picturization and story lines that connect the listener to the journey. Often, I found myself checking the CD to see if it was a Latin standard, when indeed it was an original, as they all are. A fine example is "A Wish That Came True," Bisantz rings true on the bottom register notes, the melody is exotic and refreshingly airy at the same time. Another robustly rich tune is the percussion driven tune "It's You." Ed Fast is the featured percussionist on this tune, his effervescent rhythm is accented by the horn section and the nimble fingers of guitarist Norman Johnson.

Love's Tango is popping with sparkling melodies and outstanding performances. A fine collaboration by two talented writers that equally stand up to the task when performing. Its certainly clear they have a winning sound and a recipe for songwriting that is scrumptious.

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Love’s Tango is popping with sparkling melodies and outstanding performances. A fine collaboration by two talented writers that equally stand up to the task when performing. Its certainly clear they have a winning sound and a recipe for songwriting that is scrumptious.




Chet Baker's intimate vocals have influenced countless jazz artists, **June Bisantz** among them. In fact, the Connecticut-based singer follows *Let's Fall in Love*, her 2006 Chet Baker tribute album, with the self-released *It's Always You: June Bisantz Sings Chet Baker Vol. 2*. Bisantz keeps the proceedings appropriately hushed, her singing — which, many have noted, resembles that of Phoebe Snow — sensitively shaded by pianist Alex Nakhimovsky, guitarist Norman Johnson, bassist Matt Dwonszyk and drummer Ben Bellillo.

June delivers shivers with an intonation that bears the glint of moonlit melancholy, but hardly lacks for warmth — particularly when she's accompanied by just Nakhimovsky and Johnson, or solely by the guitarist or when she goes it alone as she does on an a capella read of “Spring Is Here”. Bisantz’ horn-like phrasing floats atop the quartet’s sterling accompaniment on “It’s Always You”.

Jazziz Magazine
Spring 2016 | Art for your Ears

Disc 1

- David Arner/Babea Hughes Quintet “Tiger” from the album *Live at Montreux*
- Earl Swenson “Love Let” from the album *Harold*
- Chris Standring “Fusion Blues” from the album *Free*
- Ernie Reddick “Cotton Pickin’ Day” from the album *A Time for Love*
- June Bisantz “It’s Always You” from the album *It’s Always You*
- Hinda Wilkes Quartet “In Search of Wonder” from the album *In Search of Wonder*
- Paul Smith with Charlie Fisher and Tony Martin “While You’re Away” from the album *Smile*
- Ernie Reddick “A Time for Love” from the album *A Time for Love*
- Barry Farquhar “Making Joseph’s Coffee” from the album *Beats*
- Christian Wither “Looking Back” from the album *Player in Sound*
- Virginia Schenk “Through the Fog” from the album *Interior Motives*
- Jim Clayton “Yes, Kelly’s House” from the album *Long Journey*
- Mike Matheny “Home” from the album *Home for the Road*

Disc 2

- Ken Foner “Good Start” from the album *Standing Tall*
- Eugenie Jones “I’m Alright” from the album *Chet Swingin’*
- Ray Gass “Don’t Cross the Line” from the album *Rebirth of Soul*
- Wes Montgomery “High in the Clouds” from the album *In the Beginning*
- Letitia Gaskie “Back to Back” from the album *Blue Monday*
- Freddie Hendrix “On the Edge” from the album *Jersey Girl*
- Charles Thompson “Lullaby” from the album *Simple Times*
- Michael Eric “In the Mood” from the album *Eric*
- Robbie Amonte “The Pursuit” from the album *Days in the Light*
- National Jazz Ensemble “Thousand” from the album *National Jazz Ensemble Featuring Gary Mulgrew*
- Doris Greer and the Free Women “Angelica” from the album *Chet Under the Moon*
- Scott Dubois “I’m a Little” from the album *Winter Light*
- Paul Kuhnke “When You Know the Sun” from the album *When You Know the Sun*

JAZZIZ On Disc 2 is a CD collection of music, quoted by JAZZIZ and includes artists of the past, present and future, featured in the subscriber copies of the print editions of JAZZIZ Magazine. For more information regarding this and more than 100 other JAZZIZ compilations available for purchase, go to www.jazziz.com.

jazziz spring 2016 43

44 spring 2016 jazziz

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Jazziz Magazine
Spring 2016 | Art for your Ears

“June Bisantz’ smooth seductive voice is infectious. Her breathy, soft, trilly voice works well with the interaction of the flugelhorn. The entire album is a gem. Bisantz’ voice is simply so catching that the album will leave you wanting to hear more.”

Jazziz Magazine
Michael Faigen

“June delivers shivers with an intonation that bears the glint of moonlit melancholy ...”

“Vocalist June Bisantz pays tribute to the singing of legendary trumpeter/vocalist Chet Baker on this collection of standards associated with him.

Along with collaborators pianist Alex Nakhimovsky and guitarist Norman Johnson, the group achieves its goal by emulation rather than imitation.

Bisantz captures Baker’s soft, intimate vocal sound, the key to making the project work. It’s a vocal style completely out of step with current “diva” practice: seemingly almost casual, with no overt technical or emotional display.”

All About Jazz

Mark Sullivan

Fall 2015

The screenshot shows the All About Jazz website interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Articles, News, Downloads, Musicians, Gallery, Events. Below this is the site logo 'all-about-jazz' and a search bar. The main header area displays the article title 'June Bisantz: It's Always You: June Bisantz Sings Chet Baker Vol. 2' in a large, bold font. Below the title, it says 'By MARK SULLIVAN' and 'Published: November 11, 2015 | 585 views'. There is a star rating and a 'View related photos' link. The article text begins with 'Vocalist June Bisantz pays tribute to the singing of legendary trumpeter/vocalist Chet Baker on this collection of standards associated with him. Along with collaborators pianist Alex Nakhimovsky and guitarist Norman Johnson (plus a number of other musicians), the group achieves its goal by emulation rather than imitation. Bisantz captures Baker's soft, intimate vocal sound, the key to making the project work. It's a vocal style completely out of step with current "diva" practice: seemingly almost casual, with no overt technical or emotional display.' The text continues with details about the arrangements, the CD package, track listing, personnel, and record label. At the bottom of the article, there is a SoundCloud player for the track 'June Bisantz I Get Along Without You Very Well'.

“Bisantz captures Baker’s soft, intimate vocal sound, the key to making the project work.”

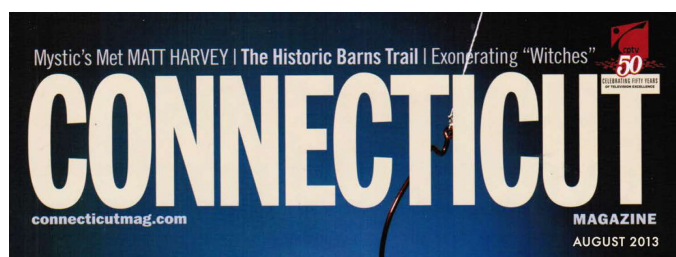
recent REVIEWS

"The Litchfield Jazz Festival will celebrate its 18th season at the Goshen Fairgrounds, August 9-11. Singer June Bisantz, also a visual artist, known for her public art installations, performs a tribute to trumpeter and vocalist Chet Baker on Sunday.

Bisantz just may be the breakout artist of the festival. Artistic director Vita Muir discovered her last year.

"I took myself over to Dan Blow's Music @Jap-analia series in Hartford to see what all the fuss was about – and fell in love with her voice and the project" says Muir.

Connecticut Magazine
CPR



| this month | music

Litchfield Jazz Fest

Jazz greats and up-and-comers let it rip in Goshen—if it's jazz you're looking for, you're in the right place.

The Litchfield Jazz Festival will celebrate its 18th season at the Goshen Fairgrounds, Aug. 9-11. After a three-year stint at The Kent School, the festival returned to its roots last summer, and got its groove back.

A stellar lineup includes both seasoned and emerging artists. Opening the show, Emmet Cohen, the 22-year-old pianist and Litchfield Jazz Camp alum who recently placed third in the Thelonius Monk Piano Competition. After that featured headliner Strings Attached—an unlikely collaboration between jazz violinist Aaron Weinstein and his trio and Broadway diva Christine Ebersole—takes over.

Saturday's highlights are just as hot: Flamenco guitarist Val Ramos and his ensemble will perform Rumba Flamenco, and iconic bassist Avery Sharpe brings his Gospel Explosion & Sacred Songs featuring Yoron Israel and Onaje Allan Gumbs. The explosive Gary Smulyan's Baritone Summit follows, and jazz master Ed-die Palmieri and his Latin Jazz Band end the set.

Singer June Bisantz (right, also a visual artist known for her public art installations), performs a tribute to trumpeter and vocalist Chet Baker on Sunday. Artistic director Vita Muir discovered her last year.



"I took myself over to Dan Blow's Music@Jap-analia series in Hartford to see what all the fuss was about—and fell in love with the voice and the program," says Muir. Bisantz recently released *Let's Fall in Love*, an album inspired by Baker. Litchfield Jazz Camp director and saxophonist, Don Braden also takes the stage with his quartet, which includes pianist Geri Allen, Avery Sharpe and Alvin Akinson. And The Vincent Herring-Eric Alexander Quintet brings "In the Spirit of Coltrane and Cannonball," a tribute to John Coltrane and Cannonball Adderley. A Latin dance party closes the festivities—Papa Viquez Mighty Pirates Troubadours do the honors. Advance tickets \$50 tent, \$30 lawn; Friday gala \$150 to \$500, multi-day passes available.

LITCHFIELD JAZZ FESTIVAL
AUG. 9-11 | GOSHEN FAIRGROUNDS
860/361-6285, litchfieldjazzfest.com



June Bisantz & Alex Nakhimovsky

“Bisantz leaves her own pale-moon, feminine grooves on the melodies letting the instrumentalists follow that well-worn path with special highlights along the way, gently coaxing out what was meant to be.

Her vocals are soft, but embed the lyrics themselves with a deep resonant tonality, a full-bodied residue that melts the words until there is just a groan in the aftermath of emotional collapse, helplessness in “Your’e Mine You”, raw, self-conscious need on “I Don’t Stand a Ghost of a Chance”, containment in longing for the Disney-esque “My Ideal”, a ballet music box of a cover.

There is just enough of a strum of a light guitar, hand in hand with Bisantz’ light, lifting vocals until the bare essence of a fan’s view of Chet Baker is all you hear.”

AXS Jazz Examiner
Carol Banks Weber

Life lived live!

June Bisantz immortalizes Chet Baker’s other love songs in ‘It’s Always You’

By Carol Banks Weber | AXS Contributor | Feb 23, 2016 | 1 day ago

Chet Baker is one of those mythic figures in jazz that either inspires total devotion or total revulsion. The late jazz trumpeter and vocalist put “My Funny Valentine” on the map at the height of his career in 1959. He left this earth with a bang in 1998 at the still tender age of 59, head smashed in, sprawled on the street below an Amsterdam hotel, where authorities would sift through his heroin and cocaine stash. His legacy as a musical wunderkind with movie star looks and a nasty drug habit would spark followers for generations.

Known in those early times as the James Dean of jazz, actual movie stars would come to see him play throughout the West Coast. Jazz stars of a certain stature, like Miles Davis and Stan Getz, didn’t care much for Baker, or he for them. The guy soon developed a bad reputation as a junkie, philanderer, wife beater, and a lot worse. But for many hip to a new, West Coast sound, he seemed tailor-made to lead the revolution, with a tone and a groove so pure, spare, and willowy as to cause hearts to swoon.

The inspired female vocalists of their day, then and now, often improve on the subject matter in their Chet Baker covers. They seem to add the romantic longing and poetic beauty they hear in his music, even those spare vocals.

June Bisantz is one of those vocalists. She’s such an admirer of Baker’s music that she’s put out two records in tribute, *Let’s Fall in Love* from 2005 and most recently, the self-produced *It’s Always You*, Vol. 2.

It’s Always You features 12 more of Baker’s songs, including the favorites (“I Get Along Without You Very Well,” “My Ideal,” “Ev’ry Time We Say Goodbye,” “I Don’t Stand A Ghost Of A Chance”) and lesser-known gems (“So Che Ti Perdero,” “You’re Mine You,” “Everything Depends On You”). Baker wrote “So Che Ti Perdero (I Know That I’ll Lose You)” while spending time in Italy.

Vol. 2 of the tribute albums also features pianist/arranger Alex Nakhimovsky and guitarist/recording/mastering Norman Johnson, along with other musicians for different tracks. Other musicians visit with bass (Matt Dwonczyk), drums (Ben Bellilo), cojón/shaker (Kan Yanabe), viola (Katalin Viragh), violin/viola (Jaroslav Lis), cello (Eric Dahlin), and trumpet/flugelhorn (Gabor Viragh).

Befitting a Chet Baker collection and that depleted, defeated Chet Baker style, Bisantz leaves well enough alone on the tried-and-true tracks. She only leaves her own pale-moon, feminine grooves on the melodies, letting the instrumentalists follow that well-worn path with special highlights along the way, gently coaxing out what was meant to be.

Her vocals are soft, but embed the lyrics themselves with a deep, resonant tonality, a full-bodied residue that melts the words until there is just a groan in the aftermath of emotional collapse: helplessness in “You’re Mine You,” raw, self-conscious need on “I Don’t Stand A Ghost Of A Chance,” contentment in longing for the Disney-esque “My Ideal,” a ballet music box of a cover.

The instrumentalists on this record hold back too. There is just enough of a strum of a light guitar, hand in hand with Bisantz’s light, lifting vocals, until the bare essence of a fan’s view of Chet Baker is all you hear.

The faint illusion is very clear, all the way up to the album cover devised by visual artist Bisantz. There she is in the foreground, wearing shades and looking like Sia, as a much younger, more innocent-looking Chet Baker is superimposed in the background, trumpet in hand, gazing forlornly off into the distance, away from her, the camera, the entire world.

“Bisantz leaves her own pale-moon, feminine grooves on the melodies ... with light, lifting vocals until the bare essence of a fan’s view of Chet Baker is all you hear.”

“June masterfully recreates the soft, lyrical, very intimate singing style of Baker. Her pure, beautiful voice with expressive intonations envelops the listener and immerses one in an imaginary jazz club atmosphere...”

I attribute the highest praise to Nakhimovsky's piano in his duet with June, “Born to Be Blue.” Also memorable are “Forgetful” and “You're Mine You”, duets with the sensual guitar of Norman Johnson. Trumpeter Gabor Viragh faced a particular challenge - playing in the style of Chet Baker is not easy. However, the sound of his horn in “Ev'ry Time We Say Goodbye” is beyond praise.

Nevertheless, the spectacular point of the album is the last song, June Bisantz without accompaniment.

Her performance of Rodgers-Hart's “Spring Is Here” is like a signature on a new portrait of a remarkable musician, a portrait June and her colleagues have created with “It's Always You”.

jazzquad.ru

Leonid Auskern

JAZZQUAD
INTERNATIONAL

Nestor media

The legendary Chet Baker's horn sounds almost like a human voice. Baker's unique singing voice is remembered by jazz fans and still excites the imagination. The cult of Chet Baker is alive, and June Bisantz is among those who make sure it continues to live.

June Bisantz is a vocalist and master of Visual Arts from Connecticut - an accomplished musician with a solid jazz background. She has performed with Steve Swallow, Mike Stern, Lou Soloff, Bob Moses. In 2006 Bisantz released *Let's Fall in Love*, based on the vocal repertoire of Chet Baker, which got good press and recognition from jazz lovers. After the release of this CD, June made a successful concert tour in Japan. And now, nine years later, a new Chet Baker project: *It's Always You: June Bisantz Sings Chet Baker, Vol.2*.

The collection of 12 songs, include popular, well-known tunes from Baker's repertoire, along with rare, seldom sung songs, like Chet's own composition from his "Italian period", *So Che Ti Perdero*.

Baker's voice, as you know, was high in timbre, and maybe that's why June's singing seems so close to the original. June masterfully recreates the soft, lyrical, very intimate singing style of Baker. Her pure, beautiful voice with expressive intonations envelops the listener and immerses one in an imaginary jazz club atmosphere - an atmosphere which is especially advantageous for this music.

Bisantz created *It's Always You* with the same group of musicians who participated in the recording of her first Baker-based album. And here, almost everyone deserves the warmest praise. Alex Nakhimovsky plays a dual role in the creation of this album as both pianist and arranger. I attribute the highest praise to his piano in his duet with June, *Born to Be Blue*. Also memorable are *Forgetful* and *You're Mine You*, duets with the sensual guitar of Norman Johnson. Trumpeter Gabor Viragh faced a particular challenge - playing in the style of Chet Baker is not easy. However, the sound of his horn in *Ev'ry Time We Say Goodbye* is beyond praise.

Nevertheless, the spectacular point of the album is the last song, June Bisantz without accompaniment. Her performance of Rodgers-Hart's *Spring Is Here* is like a signature on a new portrait of a remarkable musician, a portrait June and her colleagues have created with “*It's Always You*”.

Leonid Auskern
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recent REVIEWS



June Bisantz, Litchfield Jazz Festival, Goshen, CT

Bisantz started the Chet Baker Project a few years ago, and the same musicians have been with her since the inception. Bisantz said "Chet Baker really gets into your heart and soul. Whatever happened in his checkered life, his musicianship outlasts it all".

Included in the set were "Let's Fall in Love", "It's Always You", "Born to be Blue", "It Could Happen to You", "There Will Never Be Another You" and "Let's Get Lost". Bisantz, who is also an accomplished visual artist, dedicated "Imagination" to all the dreamers out there. She finished her superb set with "Ev'ry Time We Say Goodbye."

Jazz Police

Sheila Horne Mason

18th Annual Litchfield Jazz Festival

"Vocalist June Bisantz looked like an updated mod transplant from London's swinging 60s in a geometric A-line dress and sunglasses. Her voice and manner were as hip as her look: she sang like someone who has been places and done things."



June Bisantz

Written by Sheila Horne Mason
Photographs by Kevin R. Mason
Thursday, 10 October 2013

The 2013 Litchfield Jazz Festival

Litchfield Jazz Festival celebrated its 18th anniversary, August 9-11, 2013 at Goshen Fairgrounds in Connecticut.
the Chet Baker Project with June Bisantz

Vocalist June Bisantz looked like an updated mod transplant from London's swinging 60s in a geometric A-line dress and sunglasses. Her voice and manner were as hip as her look; she sang like someone who has been places and done things. The talented instrumentalists were pianist/arranger Alex Nakhimovsky, guitarist Norman Johnson, trumpeter Gabor Viragh, bassist Matt Dwonszyk and drummer Ben Bilello.

Bisantz started the the Chet Baker Project a few years ago, and the same musicians have been with her since the inception. Bisantz said, "Chet Baker really gets into your heart and soul. Whatever happened in his checkered life, his musicianship outlasts it all."

Included in the set were "Let's Fall in Love", "It's Always You", "Born To Be Blue", "It Could Happen to You", "There Will Never Be Another You", and "Let's Get Lost". Next was a delicious medley of "Like Someone in Love" and "I've Never Been in Love Before", followed by "You've Been Forgetful" as a gorgeous duet with Norman Johnson. She continued with "My Ideal", which she said could be a cautionary tale about online dating. Bisantz, who is also an accomplished visual artist, dedicated "Imagination" to all the dreamers out there. She finished her superb set with "Every Time We Say Goodbye".

"Chet Baker's lyrical trumpet and soft vocal style epitomized the cool jazz sound emanating from the West Coast in the 1950s. Singer June Bisantz channels that feeling on "It's Always You", the second CD inspired by Baker's sound.

Her smoky voice and artful sense of time are showcased as she covers a dozen tunes associated with Chet Baker. Bisantz gets stellar support from pianist Alex Nakhiovsky and guitarist Norman Johnson. She teams with both on Everything Depends on You and Born to Be Blue, and with just Johnson on Forgetful, "You're Mine You" and "The Night we Called it a Day". Gabor Viragh adds Baker-like trumpet accompaniment on four tracks, most notably "My Ideal" and the wistful "Evr'y Time We Say Goodbye". Bisantz closes things out with a brief a capella take on "Spring is Here".

Quite fittingly for her project, she dedicated the title track to Baker."

Jazz Notes
Ken Franckling

Ken Franckling's Jazz Notes

Tuesday, December 22, 2015

CDs of Note - Short Takes

Taking a look at new CDs by Darren Barrett, June Bisantz, Kirsten Edkins, Scott Hamilton and Jeff Hamilton, and JAMBa...

June Bisantz, *It's Always You* (self-produced)

Chet Baker's lyrical trumpet and soft vocal style epitomized the cool jazz sound emanating from the West Coast in the 1950s. Singer June Bisantz channels that feeling on *It's Always You*, the second CD inspired by Baker's sound. Her smoky voice and artful sense of time are showcased as she covers a dozen tunes associated with Baker. Bisantz gets stellar support from pianist Alex Nakhimovsky and guitarist Norman Johnson. She teams with both on "Everything Depends on You" and "Born to Be Blue," and with just Johnson on "Forgetful," "You're Mine, You," and "The Night We Called It a Day." Gabor Viragh adds Baker-like trumpet accompaniment on four tracks, most notably "My Ideal" and the wistful "Evr'y Time We Say Goodbye." Bisantz closes things out with a brief a capella take on "Spring is Here." Quite fittingly for her project, she dedicated the title track to Baker.



*"Cool and still full
of emotion –
just like Chet Baker"*

Jazz Podium Magazine, Germany
Hans Kittlaus



An offering by June Bisantz is the album "It's Always You", her second homage to Chet Baker after "Let's Fall in Love" from 2006. With a gentle voice she reminds us of the fragile world of the legendary trumpeter. The classically trained, Russian-born pianist Alex Nakhimovsky is responsible for the arrangements that together with Guitarist Norman Johnson and other musicians create a sensitive accompaniment. On "So Che Ti Perdero", a juke-box standard in this country at the beginning of the 1960s, the strings provide a breath of Ennio Morricone's original. These tracks are a little sweeter than Chet's - but you can't reach his vulnerability - It's of another world.

Ulrich Roth
6/15 Jazz Podium Magazine



Zweite Hommage an Chet Baker: June Bisantz

*"Cool and still
full of emotion -
just like Chet Baker"*

Hans-Bernard Kittlaus
Jazz Podium Magazine,
Germany

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LET'S FALL IN LOVE: JUNE BISANTZ SINGS CHET BAKER _*Toodlee-e Records*

Any album saluting the wonderful jazz trumpeter and sometime singer Chet Baker gets my attention and my ear. It's a pretty safe bet you'll start with top-drawer and emotional material in any case, as he favored well-crafted, plaintive melodies and lyrics. Once again, I bring you good news: this is a keeper.

June Bisantz Evans works primarily as a visual artist, although in my eclectic collection of old vinyl, I have some 1980s recordings under the group name "Mister Spats" with June as the lead vocalist and co-writer of the jazzy songs. She's made a few recordings, including a solo album 10 years ago. This new CD revisits some standards with Baker's low-key, languid style in mind, but comes across as just plain warm rather than warmed-over. What's been included in June's tunes? Not the expected Chet signature "Let's Get Lost," and the album title doesn't mean you get the standard "Let's Fall In Love" either (it refers to the key line in the opener "For Heaven's Sake"). There are 12 tracks, all strong entries. Classics such as a slow, reflective "Come Rain Or Come Shine," shorn of its intrinsic determination, are attractive in their own way. Another Broadway number is "I've Never Been In Love Before" from *Guys And Dolls* which also takes its time but is worth the time it takes: it's drenched in romance. Two show tunes from Rodgers and Hart, "My Funny Valentine" and "Blue Room," also make for slo-mo happy moods. June evokes Chet Baker's small voice and tender, thoughtful phrasing and is aided by the skilled Gabor Viragh standing in as the trumpet and fluegelhorn man.

Sorrow and fragility do not overwhelm the atmosphere even though they linger at the edges. Although she sounds quite sensitive and thoughtful, June's timbre conjures up a person with more emotional distance and perspective. In fact, there's an older-but-wiser maternal presence, a bit in the later Rosemary Clooney mold. Her timbre also reminds me of Nancy Wilson, even more so in the Mister Spats work where she used more voice.

In preparing to write this comparison study, I also went back and re-listened to some Chet Baker vocals I hadn't heard for a while. It was a refreshing refresher course, but confirmed that this is not a knockoff copy nor a radical departure. The essence is there, but there's some freshness, too. The good taste and subtle, skilled playing from the band members here should not be underestimated. The players are to be commended. In addition to the aforementioned brass player, pianist Alex Nakhimovsky is quite wonderful and gets ample opportunity to be heard and add to the classy environment. Guitarist Norman Johnson, drummer Greg Caputo and bass player Genevieve Rose complete a pleasing picture.

Rob Lester

*"I bring you
good news:
this is a keeper."*

Under The Radar: June Bisantz Sings Chet Baker

"I bring you good news: this is a keeper.

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Sorrow and fragility do not overwhelm the atmosphere even though they linger at the edges. Although she sounds quite sensitive and thoughtful, June's timbre conjures up a person with more emotional distance and perspective. In fact, there's an older-but-wiser maternal presence, a bit in the later Rosemary Clooney mold. Her timbre also reminds me of Nancy Wilson.

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Sound Advice | Talking Broadway
Rob Lester

*"Excellent combination of Jazz & Bossa & Tango.
Miss June Bisantz shines with her beautiful voice."*

Carlos Fernandez Pacin FM Urquiza 91.7MHZ - Argentina

"Love it !!!! Will be playing this!!"

Geoffrey Geoff FM - 88.6 FM Menton, France

*"A brilliant and stellar mix of music
WOW!"*

Jeff Moses WJMX-DB Smooth Jazz Boston Global Radio - USA

*"Love the diversity of styles here as well as June's classic, very old school
vocals. A really great cd"*

Geoff Melton | The Music Korner Magazine - Gettysburg, PA, USA

"Just perfect for the sunset sessions on the beach in Cyprus"

Mark Humphries - BFBS Cyprus - 92.1 FM Akrotiri, Cyprus



June Bisantz & Alex Nakhimovsky, the Poli Club, Waterbury Palace Theater, Waterbury, CT

radio REVIEWS



June Bisantz & Matt Dwonszyk, the Poli Club, Waterbury Palace Theater, Waterbury, CT

“LOVE IT ALL”

Bryant S LittleJohn - KISS108FM / JOY94.4FM / KIK94.5&88FM

“June Bisantz’s voice captures the vibe of balmy nights and twinkling lights. Love’s Tango is a perfect backdrop for summer romance.”

*Shelley Gummesson CFBX 92.5 FM - Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada
Jazz On The Rocks Radio Show*

“Beautiful, joyful & romantic - perfect for a summer day or evening!”

Scott Fugate - Soul and Jazz Radio - Staffordshire, UK

RADIO reviews



June Bisantz, Body & Soul, Tokyo, Japan

"June you are an angel. I love Chet Baker and your renditions on this album are so unique and yet also so Chet. They take me straight to heaven. My listeners love it. Thank you and be assured that you now have fans in Queensland, Australia."

Helen Jarroe, Cairns FM89.1 Australia

"Bisantz' voice is throaty, strong, quiet: her timing is surprising, velvety and bright."

Ann Porotti, WTJU, Virginia, USA

"An impressive offering from June Bisantz and enviable musicians. It's got the Chet Baker cool - emotionally connecting on every level."

Helen Simons, The JazzXpress Caravan, Australia Jazz 4Zzz102.1 FM

"The soothing vocals and beautiful jazz arrangements compliment this mesmerising vocal. Beautiful!"

Parko Parkinson QBN FM 96.7 Australia

"I was in awe when I heard her voice; especially carrying Chet's ballads. You can bet that I will keep my ear closely tuned in for her from now on."

Charles Jones, Music Director, WSYC Shippensburg, PA

"June's voice is very captivating, relaxing and seductive. This CD has been one of the most requested to be played not only on the jazz programs but also on the mainstream music programs. It is really wonderful!"

Rafel Corbi Radio RPEM-FM Spain

"This CD is delicious! Great singing and very beautiful arrangements, played with great sensibility."

Bruno Pollacci, AnimaJAZZ, Italy

"June's clear strong vocals, combined with great musicianship, draws one into the smoky, comfortable, night clubs of yesteryear. This is not only an album for Chet Baker fans, but for all fans of Jazz whatever their age. Sit back and be drawn in by the ambience of it all."

Tony Bates Highlands 100.7FM Australia

"The review can only be; Chet should be proud of her, a great CD with a fantastic performance on those fine Baker songs!"

Joost van Steen Alphen Stad FM Netherlands

"Beautiful voice. June kept me captivated through the WHOLE album. The band was AMAZING as well. Overall it's an 11 out of 10!! Truly GREAT!"

Jason (Xu) Marzetti DJSR 88.5 Canada

radio REVIEWS



June Bisantz & Alex Nakhimovsky Tokyo, Japan

"To say this is good is like saying that Ella Fitzgerald is just an OK singer. June has a voice God gives a very few. Move over Ella, Sarah & Diana, a new voice has emerged."

Barry Rosen, WHCJ-FM, Georgia, USA

"Without doubt the best release received this year from any source. Great vocals with impressive backing.

Congratulations to all involved."

Martin Wright Radio 3ZZZ, Melbourne, Australia

photos | **AUDIO** | *video*



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soundcloud.com/junebisantz

purchase @

store.cdbaby.com/Artist/JuneBisantz

video @

<https://vimeo.com/channels/lovestango>

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music.junebisantz.com/photos-video

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contact & booking

united states

June Bisantz | 860-423-4443 | junebisantz@mac.com

japan & asia

Music Pocket | *Masakazu Fujii* | +81-90-1407-3332

fujii@t3.rim.or.jp

promotion

Kari-On Productions | 706-993-2223 | kari@karigaffney.com

photography

Harrison Judd . futurehistory.com . harrison@futurehistory.com



June Bisantz, Poli Club, Waterbury Palace Theater, CT
Alex Nakhimovsky, piano | *Norman Johnson, guitar* | *Matt Dwoszyk, bass* | *Ed Fast, drums*