

## Soul Site.de Soul & R&B

### September 2004

Translated from German

"Barbara is like that darling girl next door, now completely grown up but still keeping that little girl charm. Possessing this playful quality, she can win over even the most casual listener with ease. This is no small achievement, considering the straight jazz program she has put together on this debut album.

Lusch gained experience singing with a cabaret band with the wonderful name of Pepe and the Bottle Blondes. She has taken a lesson from the charming jazz vocalists of the 50s and 60s (such as Julie London, Rosemary Clooney, and Peggy Lee), adding her own brand of ultra-clean, sexy allure.

Her debut album is a lot of fun. Her versions of these diverse classics swing hard and continuously. The arrangements are always pointed and never overdone, with occasional tasty instrumental flights from the traditional jazz trio of piano, bass, and a variety of percussion. Album highlights are surely her unusual interpretation of "Come On-A My House", the classic seduction number; "Black Coffee", that the great Ella Fitzgerald performed and that is brought to new heights by Barbara and her group; and "Light My Fire", the Doors' classic, here performed with a swinging Latin groove.

What's for dessert, Barbara?

- Joerg Michael Smitt, Soul Site.de, Germany



*"Die Barbara ist ein nettes Mädchen - recht gross für ihr Alter und durchaus erwachsen, aber immer noch das Mädchen, auch gerne mal von nebenan, geblieben."*



Translated from Japanese

"The debut album from Barbara Lusch. Barbara is a native of Portland, Oregon. Barbara's soothing and seductive melody is influenced by Peggy Lee and Julie London. Her mid-range tone shines in her 40's-60's Jazz repertoire, reflecting her career as a pop singer/actress. The powerful presence felt in her performance is one of a veteran singer. You will never know this is her debut album. Barbara was brought to the world of Jazz by Bobby Torres, a renowned percussionist who also performed for this album. His unique arrangement brings out the best from Barbara."

- Taisuke Sato, Swing Journal, Japan

米オレゴン州のポートランドを拠点に活動するボカリスト、バーバラ・ラッシュのデビュー作。ベギー・リーやジュリー・ロンドンから影響を受けたというだけに、中音域での甘いボーイングが魅力だ。ポップスのほか演劇などで積んだ経験をベースに、1940~60年代までのジャズをしっかりと歌い上げる。しっかりとした歌い口は、処女作とは思えない堂々っぷりだ。バーバラをジャズへと導いたパーカッショニスト、ボビー・トレスのアレンジもユニークで、①はコンガを用いて独特のテイストを醸し出している。(佐藤 大介)

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