

Ken Elkinson Borrowed Tracks (2008)

Musical deja vú

It is so exciting to hear an old song played in a new and slightly different way. You know the song, you must have heard it 1000 times, but still it sounds new and fresh. You discover that it was more to the song than you originally thought. Ken Elkinson's new album Borrowed Tracks is like a 10 track long musical deja vu. Elkinson has chosen a selection of a-list modern classics, like Eleanor Rigby (Lennon/McCartney), Trouble (Coldplay) and Send In The Clowns (Sondheim). We are used to hear these melodies with a lot of effects and studio trickeries, but Elkinson's approach is much more down-to-earth. The piano is beautifully played, with the identity and elegance of a master pianist. Elkinson gives interpretations of the songs that are truly remarkable. For instance when I heard his version of Trouble, I didn't miss Chris Martin's voice at all, and I am a Coldplay fan. It was the same way with After the Gold Rush and Neil Young. Borrowed Tracks is indeed a musical deja vu, and a truly enjoyable listening experience from beginning to end. Available on Amazon and most other music outlets.

- BT Fasmer