

A Reflective Jazz Album

Bruce Von Stiers

Michael C. Lewis is a trumpet and flugelhorn player. Having played with people like Kirk Whalum and Walter Beasley, Lewis is a much sought after horn player. He graduated from the Berklee College of Music and is currently pursuing a Masters Degree at NYU.

Lewis has recorded his debut album. The apt title for the album is *Reflection*. It is being released by *Cybervision Entertainment*. Lewis produced the album. He also composed most of the songs on the album. For the album he plays both the trumpet and flugelhorn. Lewis also does a bit of vocals.

A few people helped out on the album. **William Heagy** played the keys one song. **Alva Nelson** was on piano for another. **William “Spaceman” Patterson** played guitar on a couple of songs. **Wendall Brooks** did programming, played additional instruments and sang some backing vocals. **Jeanne Ricks** played guitar on one song and **Rakiem Walker** was on tenor sax for one as well.

Reflection (Sunrise) is the first track on the album. Like the title suggests, the song is soft and gentle. Lewis plays flugelhorn on the song, backed by subtle keyboard music.

Gulf Breeze steps things up a bit. This time it's the trumpet that holds forth. There is a nice piano solo and some background harmonizing vocals.

I Need Your Love is a slow and easy piece.

Lewis provides vocals for the song *I Dedicate My Heart*. It is a subtle R & B styled tune.

Moving back to a slight nighttime groove, *Cloud Parade* has some smooth trumpet and flugelhorn.

In The Night Time once again features vocals by Lewis.

Night Fall makes good use of the trumpet and guitar for a light nighttime groove.

Miles To Go is a bit of a toe-tapper. It has a touch of funk that makes it fun to listen to.

The classic Carpenters song, *We've Only Just Begun*, finds its way onto the album. I never expected to see the song on a mellow jazz album. But Lewis and his friends make it work. Lewis does decent vocals and the tenor sax is a nice touch.

Then there is the fun and funky *Kid Time*.

The album ends with another reflection song; this one called *Reflection (Sunset)*. It is sweet and serene, just like a beautiful sunset.

Reflection is a nice and gentle jazz album. Michael C. Lewis is a really good trumpet and flugelhorn player. His compositions and playing make this an album well worth listening to.

The official Michael C. Lewis web site can be found at www.michaelclewis.net. There you can hear clips

from Reflection and even order a copy of the album.

[Back](#)

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