



Albums

Josh Rzepka "Into the Night"



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By Will

Not every young person hates classical music. Josh Rzepka, recipient of the Akron Area Arts Alliance's prestigious "Rising Young Star/Artist" award, is a perfect example of how younger generations can appreciate—and even excel at—classical music or jazz. Rzepka's new album "Into the Night" is a nine track love letter to the music of yesteryear. It's also appropriately dedicated to the late Dr. Wendell Logan, director of the Jazz Studies Program at the Oberlin Conservatory.

Rzepka, a trumpet player, surrounds himself with an ensemble of talented jazz musicians including pianist Jackie Warren, bassist Peter Dominguez and drummer Ron Godale. Though Rzepka's name titles the album, each musician bring a great level of musicianship to the table. And each is given an opportunity to shine. For instance, "Stasis", the album's third song is a delicate piano serenade.

The beauty of "Into the Night" is that each song occupies a different space in the jazz spectrum. Rzepka and company effortlessly move through each flavor of jazz including blues, samba and swing. Because of the various musical forms, it's perfect album for novice listeners to get familiar with the various incarnations of jazz music.

"Into the Night" exemplifies the diversity and talent of America's youth. Each track is a self contained ecosystem that feels complete, yet the album smoothly transitions from track to track.

Don't knock it because it's Jazz. Give "Into the Night" a listen, you'll be pleasantly surprised.

<http://www.joshrzepka.com/>