



DOGWOODRECORDS

**Lissy Walker Returns With**  
**Wonderland**  
**Another Sublime Collection of Classic, Soulful Folk/Jazz**

**Lissy Walker** sings jazz, but she brings her own unique spin to the music by adding elements drawn from the worlds of folk, country and '70s acoustic pop. Walker's burnished vocals and her virtuosic band slip effortlessly between genres to create their own soulfully sweet sound—dreamy and bittersweet, heartfelt and swinging—on her stunning new recording, *Wonderland*.

Her acclaimed debut album, *Life Is Sweet* boasted some of SF's and NY's finest musicians, including **John R. Burr** on piano, **Jon Evans** on bass, **Scott Nygaard** on guitar, and **Steven Bernstein** on trumpet. Walker and co-producer Evans reassembled the team, along with some new players, including **Ben Goldberg** on clarinet, and went into Berkeley's legendary **Fantasy Studios** to cut *Wonderland*, an album that brings Walker's subtle intensity to bear on another collection of gems from the American Songbook, as well as a few modern classics.

The songs on *Wonderland* deal in dreams and illusions, desires fulfilled and unfulfilled, and the power of reflection and intent. Walker's sweet, smoky, purring alto is perfectly suited to these songs of yearning. The focus is on songs from two great songwriting eras: swing tunes from the 20s/30s and folk ballads from the 70s. Her emotive vocal approach, the innovative arrangements, and the brilliance of the band, blend the two eras together, resulting in a classic, yet contemporary, vibe—a perfect hybrid.

*Wonderland* opens with a starry-eyed medley of “**Dream a Little Dream of Me/I'll See You in My Dreams**.” Pianist Burr, bassist Evans, and clarinetist Goldberg produce a hallucinogenic tone before the ensemble swings into a hot gypsy jazz rhythm, featuring Bernstein's muted trumpet adding counterpoint to Walker's laid-back vocal and quiet, scatted improvisations.

“**Tonight You Belong to Me**” features Burr's crystalline country jazz piano and Nygaard's gently trilling mandolin, giving the music the feel of a hot Saturday swinging barn dance. Walker's lilting ornamentations give the lyric a sly, seductive feeling. “**Lullaby in Ragtime**” features Walker's most sultry vocal, with Goldberg on clarinet, Bernstein on slide trumpet, and the rhythmic magic of drummer **Jason Lewis**.

The result is *Wonderland*, another beautiful compilation marked by the band's subtle virtuosity and Walker's deep, simmering vocals, delivering an album that continuously reveals emotional and musical intensity.

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