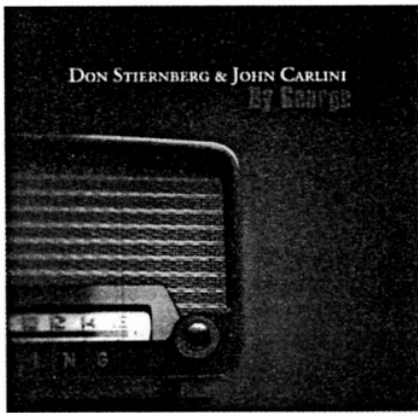


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Don Stiernberg & John Carlini
By George
Blue Night Records BNR-217



Reviewed by Chris Thiessen

What can you really say about the guitarist who taught Tony Rice (and the rest of the first Grisman Quintet) about jazz? On this CD, Carlini teams with mandolinist Don Stiernberg to cover classic tunes by George Gershwin. If you've been reading FGM for any amount of time, you know that every columnist at some time (at least once) has suggested listening to other kinds of music to build musical appreciation. So if you're not familiar with the work of one of the leading musicians of the 20th century, you

really should heed the recommendations and correct that obvious neglect in your musical education. And this CD is an excellent intro.

For Carlini and Stiernberg, this project allows them to play tunes they obviously revere. There is a point artists reach where the difficult becomes apparently simple. "Apparently" is the critical term. This music is not simple, but in the hands and fingers of Carlini and Stiernberg it seems effortless and immensely fluid, and the joy they're experiencing playing this music shines through. Even if you're not a devoted fan of Mr. Gershwin, you owe it to your musical expansion to look into this CD. Will you wind up playing most of it on your guitar the following week? Perhaps not, but it may open some personal musical windows that you didn't even know existed.

Tune List: Nice Work If You Can Get It; Liza (All The Clouds Roll Away); How Long Has This Been Going On?; Somebody Loves Me; Fascinatin' Rhythm; I've Got A Crush On You; Someone to Watch Over Me; The Man I Love; Rhapsody in Blue (Intro); Summertime; Embraceable You; Soon; Strike Up The Band; I Got Rhythm