



## Wendy Kirkland Quartet – ‘Piano Divas’

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**“Proper jazz piano, excellent band, a very classy debut” ★★★★★ Dave Gelly, The Observer**

**“Most relaxing debut album...enlivening voice, bouncy piano. Her bossa interpretation of “It’s Not Unusual” completely eclipses Tom Jones at last” – Jazz Journal**

**“A refreshing tribute to pianist singers like herself; Diana Krall, Nina Simone, Eliane Elias” – Jazzwise**

**“One of the great unsung heroines of British Jazz” – The JazzMann**

**“A bright future...first rate” – Jazz Views**

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Piano Divas was recorded in rural Lincolnshire at the Steinway B of Spencer Cozens, MD to John Martyn and Joan Armatrading. Piano and voice were recorded simultaneously so the tracks retain their live feel. Overdubs and AutoTune were not employed.

Since its release on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017, the album has attracted airplay from over 20 worldwide radio stations and has been Album of the Week twice on The Jazz UK. Airplay by Clare Teal on BBC Radio 2 is scheduled for Jan 2018.

*The album is distributed in the UK and Europe by Discovery Records and in Japan by GATS Records.*

**PERSONNEL: WENDY KIRKLAND – PIANO AND VOICE,  
PAT SPRAKES – GUITAR, PAUL JEFFERIES – DOUBLE BASS,  
STEVIE SMITH – DRUMS.**

Wendy Kirkland is the product of an incredibly musical family who is largely self taught; well, at least for jazz. Achieving her ABRSM piano grades during her childhood left her with a choice of direction; she chose jazz. Her voice has attracted comments such as “lucid warmth” (The JazzMann) and “vocal acrobatics” (Bebop Spoken Here). She has been a regular on the UK jazz circuit since 2002 and has been highly praised by fellow musicians Jim Mullen, Alan Barnes, Sue McCreeth and Roger Beaujolais for her innate musicianship.

### Track Listing:

1. Come Dance With Me (Van Heusen/Cahn)
2. Bahia (Sprakes/Kirkland)
3. Slow Boat To China (Loesser)
4. Some Other Time (Bernstein)
5. Hey Good Lookin’ (Williams)
6. It’s Not Unusual (Reed/Mills)
7. Be Nice (Sidran)
8. Samba Chica (Kirkland)
9. Don’t Worry Be Happy (McFerrin)
10. Cheek to Cheek (Berlin)
11. My Baby Just Cares For Me (Donaldson/Kahn)
12. Meet Me Midnight (Sussman/Manilow)

