



RELEASE INFORMATION

Artist: Louie Austen
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Louie Austen

Easy Love

Louie Austen, the Kitty-Yo lounge lizard, had been travelling through almost every continent - USA, Europe, Asia and Australia - discovering a new world of his own. After touring a huge number of clubs and venues in the big metropolises the great entertainer finally came home to spend some time in the studio again, recording „Easy Love“, that had been released on 16. June 2003. He recorded this album with the Austrian Cheap Label guys Patrick Pulsinger and Mario Neugebauer in Vienna.

After releasing „Consequences“ (1999) and „Only Tonight“ (2001) including the Club-Hit-Singles „Amore“ & „Hoping“ Louie Austen as due to put out his third album named „Easy Love“. Meanwhile he had been at the age of 56 he was able to look back on a life full of different experiences: remember, Louie started in the 70ies with a superb education at the Vienna academy of classical music before leaving Europe in order to follow the musical track of the famous Rat Pack with almost 20 year of touring in the US.

With this in mind, it was even more fascinating that a classical artist such as Louie Austen was able to engage with all the sound experiments of the Cheap-boys Mario and Patrick with such authenticity and ease. And all this resulted in a another amazingly homogeneous piece of music including a wide range of elements such as Easy Listening, 80ies Disco, Dub, Dance, HipHop, House, Jazz, and Big Band. A reason for this could surely be found in Louie's touring all over the world. Performing at the most various locations he learned about and was inspired by a lot of variations of electronic music. It was a challenge to him to expand his repertoire and always to discover new musical genres mixing them with his very own Louie style. Together with Pulsinger und Neugebauer his aim was to advance in style with style.

This means not forgetting the classical songwriting – compositions which are suitable for performances with his old Swing Band fellas; songs whose style matches Louie's voice and his way of interpreting; finally creating an unusual and unique interaction/interplay between Louie Austen, the cosmopolitan master of ceremonies, and Louie Austen, the experimental modernist.

In this context the exciting collaboration between Louie's longtime companion Tibor Barkoczy from Hungary and the Vienna producer team had to be mentioned. The pianist, composer and bandleader Tibor did an outstanding job integrating melodies and lyrics, which he and Louie created some time ago, into the eclectic electronic music of Neugebauer and Pulsinger.

For some years before 2003 Louie had been a visitor and curious observer of a subculture whose characteristics were the fast pace of life then and which was constantly in flux. A generation searching permanently for new challenges, unconventional ways of life, and, of course, for itself. Taking this up, Louie tried authentically to give an understanding of the essentials of life with his charismatic and charming character.

The crooner of Vienna sang with his strong but nonetheless smooth voice about the eternal game of seducing, about leaving someone and being left, hurting and missing each other. These were and still are the truths in life and love, and one truly believes Louie not only singing about them but also understanding them.

A lot of songs on this album describe this change. They are a kind of register of Louie's observations; they show Louie's emotional sympathy of situations in life which consist of a framework of contradictions. The collaboration with Irene Lavine on Desire is a good example here. Having been part of the environment of Cheap Records for quite a few years, Irene Lavine can be called a master of Spoken Word. She produced Showroom Recordings, Restaurant Tracks, to mention only a few. The last track on the album - "Where will it all end" - was composed last autumn. It was a time when Louie was not very pleased with the political situation in the world and already worried about things to come. This is probably one of Louie's most personal songs expressing honestly his fear and anxiety facing a potential war. The composition was rearranged by Patrick Pulsinger and recorded with jazz musicians of high reputation: Werner Dafeldecker on bass, Franz Hauzinger playing the trumpet, and Florian Sokol on saxophone.

On „Danger“ Louie was supported by George Ogunleye of the Aphrodelics. Mario Neugebauer tried to create a partly fluent, partly thrilling mood with strings inspiring the modern aspect of the song, with a little nostalgia and the hip hop beat being an antipole to Louie's strong voice.

Dr. Louie Love, Mr. Easy Austen:

This album asks for more easyness in everybody to cross one's own borders and microcosmos; expresses astonishment and admiration about the ability of self criticism; warns of a maybe too big laxness in important decisions.

It's a bow for the generation which enabled Louie to start again and again the field of music - doing it in his own special way. Louie Austen is easy to love!

Louie is a true oldschool entertainer, a gentleman with style and work ethics, always on the road and participating on all different sorts of collaborations. The whole spring and summer 2003 he had been on international dates without a break till the end of April in bigger venues on the Gonzales Pretirement showed in Berlin, Geneva, Vienna, London and Paris with Gonzales, Peaches (already „Only Tonight“ featured collaborations a.o. with Peaches), Taylor Savvy, Feist, Mocky and Guesch Patti and in April-June on the Cheap Label Birthday parties in Italy, Germany and Spain (a.o. Sonar Festival).

TRACKLISTING

- 01 Easy Love
- 02 You Didn't Know
- 03 Feel Me!
- 04 Danger (feat. Shake)
- 05 Desdemonda's Revenge (interlude feat. Irene Lavina)
- 06 I Believe (In Love Again)
- 07 On Tour
- 08 Let's Do It Together
- 09 Drowning
- 10 Pain
- 11 Desire August '99 (geat. Irene Lavina)
- 12 You Treat Me Wrong
- 13 As Long As I Have A Song
- 14 When Will It All End? (feat. Melinda Stojka)

FEEDBACK

DJ (June 2003): "Easy Love' is a happy harmony of seemingly incompatible cultures."

Large (June 2003): "Tell you what, I've heard a lot of albums in my time but this might, just might, turn out to be one of the best albums of all time!"

X-Ray (July 2003): "Crooner Louie Austen's past may be as hazy as his age (Butlins at Minehead or Ceasars Palace in Vegas: 56 or 70?) but his present career rebirth rings clear and true."

Loge (June 2003): " He's an enigma, a 56 year old could-be should-be rat-packer who really does run with the rats: a man unafraid to pepper his work with expletives and make it sound like an invitation to bed. Simply amazing."