

REVIEWS OF NOUVEAU STRIDE

"In a duo aptly dubbed Nouveau Stride, the Grammy-nominated lyricist/singer and her petite musical partner are busy reintroducing the very roots of jazz to the 21st Century--a hiply feminine, modernized version of the explosive energy first brought to us by those ham-fingered men who brightened the darkest days of the Great Depression."

- Carl Hager, *All About Jazz*

"Feather's intense enthusiasm for Stephanie Trick, her partner in the freshly minted Nouveau Stride, is fully justified. Indeed, first-time listeners to *Fourteen* are advised to proceed directly to Track 10, Trick's solo romp through J.P. Johnson's "Carolina Shout," to appreciate the young St. Louisan's prowess. The 13 remaining tracks all feature Feather's deliciously clever wordplay . . . wonderfully witty."

- Christopher Loudon, *Jazz Times*

"Whenever stride is mentioned, somebody wants to know exactly what it is, and ["Pour on the Heat"] is the best explanation that's recently emerged ... with Lorraine Feather, one of the niftiest lyricist and most gymnastic singers of our age ... and the seventeen fingers of Stephanie Trick!"

- Russell Davies, BBC

"Songs straight out of the Lorraine Feather Imaginary Encyclopedia ... "Bat Boogie" is a plunge into bat-world with such aplomb ... one of my favorites is the tune that Stephanie wrote, "Vive Le Boogie Woogie," with Lorraine's original lyrics. "The Tango Lesson," "Rules of the Park ..." There's a visual component here, like a painting that's accompanied by music ... too brilliant ... just a joy, this album."

- Janet Coleman, *Cat Radio Café* [WBAI, New York]

"These songs are happy, silly, pretty, classy and highly musical - the pianist is a wonderful technician yet, when she matches her talent with Ms. Feather witty lyrics, this program becomes irresistible. Whether it's taking "Mule Walk" (composed by [James P. Johnson) and creating lyrics that praise bats ("Bat Boogie") or Duke Ellington's "Dancers in Love" and telling the story of the perfect man ("Imaginary Guy"), this collaboration will make you smile."

- Richard Kamins, *Step Tempest*

"On the third day of the San Diego Jazz Festival, an overflow crowd of music lovers gathered in the California Ballroom to enjoy the musical gems performed by Stephanie and Lorraine. Stephanie's agile fingers, on the Steinway keyboard, were projected through a 'piano-cam' on two big screens. Simultaneously, Lorraine's voice and her fascinating lyrics metamorphosed into text onscreen. The audience also enjoyed her award-winning cartoon [*You're Outa Here*], featuring Fats Waller's music.

This magnificent duo received standing ovations for their two-hour show. Nouveau Stride's performance was a glorious tour-de-force."

- Liviu Bavecila, *San Diego Reader*

Without a stitch of pretentiousness, they've taken some stride classics as written and played by the masters-- James P. Johnson, Fats Waller, and combined enthusiastic, swinging stride piano recreations with vocals that sport creative home-made, present-day lyrics . . . a joyous album indeed . . . They not only succeed, they triumph . . . Bravo! Huzzah!"

-Grego Applegate Edwards, *Gaplegate Music Reviews*

What makes this CD so special is that it was entirely a labor of love. One of Feather's fans told her to listen to the young pianist's YouTube videos. Feather was absolutely captivated by her playing, and so contacted Trick and offered to co-produce a duo-album of stride (and boogie) pieces with lyrics by Feather. This is the result, and it is quite simply an invigorating and captivating disc.

-Lynn Bayley, *Fanfare*