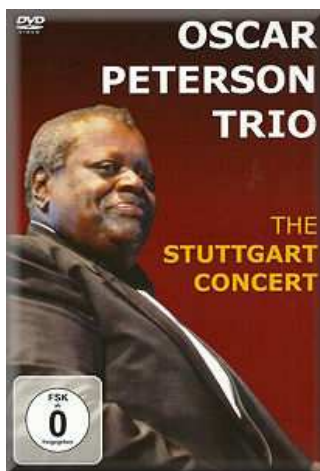


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9. Medley: I Got It Bad And That Ain't Good/Satin Doll/C-Jam Blues/Lush Life/Caravan
10. Blues Etude

Oscar Peterson - Piano  
Dave Young - Double bass  
Martin Drew - Drums

The sleeve-note says that this DVD was filmed at the ZDF Jazz Club in Stuttgart, which is probably true. But I doubt two other statements: one that the drummer is Kenny Drew (it's actually Martin Drew); the other is that bassist Dave Young was "a regular member of Peterson's trio for 25 years", as he only worked with Oscar for limited periods.

At any rate, both drummer and bassist support Oscar with superb skill. They contribute several noteworthy solos as well as staying alert to anticipate Peterson's every move, which can't be easy as Oscar is often unpredictable. One area where he is predictable is in the runs which he frequently interpolates in the midst of solos - especially on slow tunes - which often sound familiar, particularly when he plays in octaves. But the same might be said of one of Peterson's idols: Art Tatum.

## DVD REVIEW

### OSCAR PETERSON TRIO

#### *The Stuttgart Concert*

● Inakustik INAK 6479 DVD

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Otherwise Oscar is as surprising and versatile as ever - equally capable of swinging like the clappers and caressing ballads tenderly. He illustrates both styles in *Who Can I Turn To?*, with a gorgeous unaccompanied slow section followed by a storming up-tempo. *Soft Winds* has a splendid passage where piano and bass share a solo.

*Love Ballade* is the first of four compositions by Peterson, starting like a classical study before jazzing it up slightly but not so much as to lose the classical poise. *Cakewalk* - another Oscar original - makes a good contrast to the previous tune with a fast bluesy improvisation. After bass and drums play flag-waving solos, Oscar comes in again unaccompanied, including some vigorous stride piano. Peterson turns *My Foolish Heart* and *Body and Soul* into a ballad medley decorated with filigree patterns and plenty of those octave runs.

The medley of five Duke Ellington tunes brings about some fascinating juxtapositions and transitions, with the heart-stopping pause in *Satin Doll* which Oscar's trio has made its own. *C-Jam Blues* has a speedy boogie beat; *Lush Life* is short but thoughtful; and the ultra-fast *Caravan* is driven by Peterson's unbelievable left-hand riff. *Blues Etude* makes a rousing encore.

Having seen Oscar Peterson so often in concert and on film, I feared I might be bored by yet another Oscar disc, but the sheer brilliance of this trio keeps you spellbound.

**Tony Augarde**

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