

# In Tune

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**CHAMPION FULTON, "The Breeze and I" (Spectra Jazz) ☆☆☆☆** — Fans of Harry Connick Jr. figure to find a lot to like about Champion Fulton. A first-rate jazz

vocalist (and ivory-tickling piano wizard), Fulton comes across as the distaff version of Connick on "The Breeze and I." Originally released on the niche Gut String label last year, Spectra Jazz is giving the 13-track collection of jazz standards the wider release it deserves.

Fulton delivers the goods throughout, with stellar readings of "Exactly Like You," "Day In, Day Out," "The Sheik of Araby," "The One I Love Belongs to Someone Else," "Easy to Love," "I Can't Face the Music," "My Heart Stood Still" and "If I Had You." She wisely mixes vocal tracks and instrumentals, allowing the focus to remain on her piano work whenever possible without depriving listeners of her ear-pleasing vocals. A must for jazz lovers. (JS)