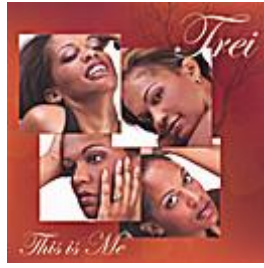


Mp3 Trei - This Is Me



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Classic R & B with a shining glaze of contemporary jazz and underpinnings of neo-soul. 11 MP3 Songs

URBAN/R&B: Rhythm Blues, JAZZ: Smooth Jazz Details: "This is Me". Across a span of songs, Atlanta-based soul chanteuse Trei (pronounced "tree") delivers an autobiographical song cycle of emotional candor. Overlaying classic R&B with a shiny glaze of contemporary jazz and the underpinnings of neo-soul, Trei introduces a sound in tune with her truth. Born in Detroit, Trei's musical introduction to performing was in gospel. By age four, she was singing on a Sunday church radio broadcast where she was a regular for the next two years. Her formal voice training began at age six, and all around her she heard music, especially the famed girl groups of Motown. "My adopted mom was older," recalls Trei, "and she had a stack of 45s." Childhood was a challenge. Given up for adoption, Trei was eventually returned to the system by her adopted mother. By her teen years, she was living on her own while attending high school and excelling in choir and talent competitions. "I was becoming the person I am now," she qualifies. "I remember scrubbing bathrooms at age 14 in order to make money to go to New Orleans with the choir. And always the music was a refuge and a beacon. Shortly after high school, she left Michigan for the emerging music capitol of Atlanta. "I thought I'd come down here, go to LaFace, jump on the desk, sing, and they'd make me a star. I had no idea: you have to put the work in." The work included singing backing vocals for LaFace recording artists, Young Bloods, on their debut, and performing an array of gigs to make a living: recording sessions, society events, galas, balls and showcases -- from clubs to concert halls. When Trei began writing lyrics to her own songs, another level of honesty came forth. She enlisted the help of studio ace Eric Fleming -- a veteran of projects with Cindy Lauper and Miki Howard -- to collaborate. "Eric would give me tracks and they'd speak to me. What I have to say are about things other people have dealt with in their lives. The words started flowing out of me like water. I would think

about what I was dealing with: failure, not getting into my passion, or being comfortable with my purpose." From these emotions, conflicts, and ultimate resolution, emerged the lyrics that became the framework for her debut, "This is Me". Across a range of emotions from the sensual to the spiritual, there's a sense of serenity and purpose. Trei has become a wife and a mother now, and having the support of her family has infused her work with a new-found maturity as her ambition, resourcefulness and inspiration keep her moving ever forward. With the musical lifting of the clouds, Trei has arrived.

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