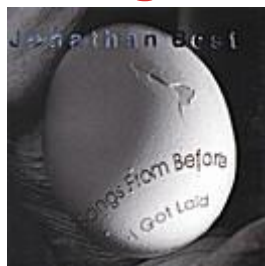


Mp3 Jonathan Best - Songs From Before I Got Laid



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-Susan DeFreitas, Zene Magazine

18 MP3 Songs
WORLD: African, LATIN: Latin Jazz
Details: Jonathan Best has been playing music around the world for over 20 years. He was taught the finer points of gospel music early in his career as he toured the Pentecostal churches of New York City and the south with The Elect Lady Evangelist Shirley Davis. His blues and R&B leanings also landed him gigs with bands such as The Drifters, South African singer Cosbie Mbele, the B-52s and Defunct. His odd sense of humor brought him together with the notorious Peter Stampfel (Holy Modal Rounders) for a number of albums and tours, culminating in the thankless job of producing and recording Stampfel's last album with the Bottlecaps "The Jig is Up". Thoroughly ensconced in the Downtown experimental music scene he also performed and recorded with various Latin bands, a synthesis which brought him together with David Byrne (Talking Heads) for a seven month world tour and a feature film. Jonathan has also done a lot of composing and arranging for albums and movies in his own recording studio. He composed, arranged and co-wrote the lyrics for Clarence Carter's 'I Got A Thing For You' included on Carter's "Between a Rock and a Hard Place" album and his "Greatest Hits" album, both of which remained on the Billboard R&B charts for several weeks. Jonathan's teaching experience includes giving private piano lessons since the beginnings of his career. He has also taught and led a various music workshops in improvisation and group interaction. Jonathan is currently performing solo in an act where he brings all of his various musical talents to the stage and does not just perform, but creates music with the audience. With the aid of a looper, he records and layers, live on stage, rhythmic sounds made with such instruments as bicycle forks, a transistor radio, tooth brushes, hedge clippers and his cheeks. He then

brings the audience and even the hall itself into the mix, adding seven part contrapuntal vocal harmonies and his inimitable keyboard playing, covering every style from barrelhouse blues to salsa. "Imagine the intensity of Jerry Lee Lewis's piano playing with the deliberate onstage deliberations of Badly Drawn Boy and the avant-garde experiments of (insert favorite found-sound avant-garde artist here...) and you've got an idea just how quirky and fascinating his performances are." -Tony Fletcher, iJamming.com "Any attempt to describe the music of Jonathan Best is bound to fall short. Equal parts Gospel tenor, boogie-woogie piano, and avant-garde sound collage, his music spans cultures and idioms with ease. It also makes startling use of sampled "loop" technology - and it's this element, perhaps more than any other, that has helped to establish Best as a local musician with a "must-see" live show." -Susan DeFreitas, Zene Magazine

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