



# Ken Franckling's Jazz Notes

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

## CDs of Note - Short Takes

### Lisa Thorson, [Lisa Thorson Quartet Live](#) (Birdfeeder Music)

Boston-based singer and educator Lisa Thorson is out with her first recording in over 10 years, and it is a most-welcome display of the no-frills singer's art. This session was recorded live at Scullers Jazz Club in Boston in 2009. This, her sixth CD as a leader, teams Thorson with her longtime bandmates Tim Ray (piano), David Clark (bass) and George Schuller (drums). They've been a team for more than 20 years – and it shows.

Thorson's clear and crisp diction, uncanny sense of swing and skillful role as a musical interpreter, with understated scatting at times, come into play here. This is no "chick singer" fronting a band. She's deeply enmeshed in the collective band sound, and what a sound it is. Favorites: their takes on Charlie Parker's "Blues for Alice," the wistful standard "There's a Lull in My Life" (kudos here for shining new light on a gem), their moody take on Duke Ellington's "Mood Indigo," and a medley consisting of guitarist Garrison Fewell's "Hearing Things Too" (with lyrics by Thorson) and Aldir Blanc's "Chorado."



Posted by [Ken Franckling](#) at 12:21 PM

No comments:



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Ken Franckling is a veteran arts writer and freelance photographer specializing in music photography.



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