



August 1999

Dane croons the tunes

Dane Vannatter

"Flight" (*Dreamworld*)

Vannatter's is a classic singing voice for crooning, a style perfect for the kind of material this album is packed with: pieces by Mercer. Ellington. Comden & Green, etc. Among the offbeat choices, a cover of the Motels' "Suddenly Last Summer" fits nicely into the program, but Joni Mitchell's "Night Ride Home" is just too sublime. Vannatter's voice is a warm, powerful, yet beautifully controlled tenor that can easily go shooting into the alto range. He opens up and lets loose on "This House Is Haunted" and presents a beautiful pairing of "It's the Talk of the Town" and "Lonely Town." And stick around for a final heartfelt hidden cut, probably titled "Thread of Life." **(Grade: B+)**

-Ed Symkus

Dane Vannatter performs at the Regattabar on Sept. 9.



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