

DOUYÉ

"Nigerian singer Douyé' has a molasses thick voice and keeps it subdued and misty..."

– George W. Harriss / **Jazz Weekly**

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DOUYÉ, a Nigerian born jazz recording artist based in Los Angeles, CA. At her early age of life, Douyé was introduced to the sounds of jazz by her late father who also encouraged her to take on jazz singing as her artistry when she becomes older. At the tender age of seven, Douyé took on the interest in poetry and began writing poems which then geared her interest in song-writing. In her teen years, she settled in England and eventually moved to California, United States to pursue a career in singing. In 2010, she released her debut album titled "**Journey**" and her sophomore album titled "**So Much Love**" was released in 2014, a Fela Kuti tribute album. In 2017, Douyé released her debut jazz album titled "**Daddy Said So**" which remained on the jazz weekly charts for over 25 weeks. This in turn, shed light and awareness on her name in the jazz world and making her an artist to know. The album features jazz greats such as Ron Carter, Kenny Barron, Russell Malone and many more. The jazz chanteuse states, "I completely surrender myself to the spirit of the music and allow it to lead the way." Douyé repertoire in performance is classic jazz standards and she performs the songs in a way that makes it all new again with a reflection and resemblance of the sound and style of vintage jazz. Douyé's unique style is timeless, sophisticated and captivating. Jazz music critic Scott Yanow states, Douyé sings tastefully and with a genuine affection for the songs." Douyé released her fourth album titled **Quatro, Bossa Nova Deluxe**, similar to Daddy Said So with respect to its repertoire of well-known songs. These songs, however, come from the more humid climes of Brazil and include the cornerstones of bossa nova. The disc is anchored by an interior quartet of Antonio Carlos Jobim compositions: "The Girl from Ipanema," "One Note Samba," "Once I Loved," and "Corcovado." The album was well received and was on the jazz weekly charts for 25 weeks. Douyé sound represent a unique beauty that is textured richly in a way that is elegantly inviting and alluring to the senses. Douyé continue to push for higher heights in her delivery of songs and brand as an artist that is one of a kind. Her sound and style will continue to win the hearts of music lovers worldwide.

FOLLOW



REVIEWS



QUATRO BOSSA NOVA DELUXE

MUSICALMEMOIRS

"Douyé has a timbre and tone similar to the iconic Nina Simone. It's a sound that is unique and establishes this vocalist as a stylist. In other words, when you hear her once, you will probably recognize her the second time around." By Dee Dee McNeil

MIDWEST RECORD

"Douye loves the material and it loves her back making it sound as present and contemporary as if bossa nova isn't close to celebrating it's 60th anniversary. Utterly tasty stuff with every note in exactly the right pace, get yourself in the groove one more time and enjoy the audio sunshine. Hot stuff." By Chris Spector

JAZZ WEEKLY

"Douye' delivers a warm collection of bossa nova classics and samba'd jazz standards on this delightfully lithe session" By George W. Harris

ALL ABOUT JAZZ

"Sultry songstress Douyé takes listeners by the hand and assuredly leads them through an enchanting and intoxicating stroll amidst the rich sounds of Brazil and the percussive shimmer of Africa." By JIM WORSLEY

JAZZ CHILL

"It's more of a gift for listeners, though: a lush and soulful excursion for jazz lovers, a delectable new twist for aficionados of bossa nova."

TAKE EFFECT

"A effort that covers much territory, big band sounds as well as moments of intimacy are on hand, as Douyé and company add another rich and radiant collection to her exceptional catalog of music." By Tom Haugen



DADDY SAID SO

TAKE EFFECT

"Although I don't think any of us would want Douyé to stop any of the other genres she performs in, let's hope she also continues with jazz, not only for her father, but because her exceptional voice manages to make great tunes sound even better." By Tom Haugen

NO SOLO JAZZ

"vocal jazz in its purest form." By JAVIER GARCIA ESCAMEZ

LA JAZZ SCENE

"Douye sings tastefully and with a genuine affection for the songs. Hopefully in the future she will continue to sing jazz and will stretch herself a bit more in her improvising." Review By Scott Yanow

REVIEWS



DADDY SAID SO

R & B singer Douye fulfills a promise to her late father to become a jazz artist on her new album, DOUYE, which was recently released by Rhombus Records.

The Nigerian-born Douye puts her inimitable vocal style on twelve famous jazz songs by Ellington, Gershwin, Strayhorn, Hammerstein and others, delivering them with scrupulous attention to lyrics and an emotional intensity that is quite remarkable. The emphasis is on ballads, though there are three uptempo tunes that fly high and fast ("All the Things You Are," "Autumn Leaves" and "Summertime").

Douye is backed up by several different teams of musicians, all of them first-rate. On "Round Midnight," for example, she fronts a quartet comprised of Roy McCurdy (drums), John Clayton (bass), Bob Sheppard (horns) and John Beasley (piano). Beasley also produced and arranged the tune. On "Autumn Leaves" an 18-piece studio band led by Angelo Metz does the honors. Metz not only conducted but did the arrangements and played guitar as well.

Douye (pronounced Doe-Yay) has made an impressive jazz debut here, one that would have made her jazz-loving father proud. - Willard Manus - www.lively-art.com

This music fan's passionate love affair with Jazz music began with an album of torch songs delivered by the incomparable vocal songstress who is said to have hailed from Philadelphia, PA, but is affectionately claimed and embraced by Baltimore, MD. It is wonderful to note that, after listening to Douyé's new album release entitled "Daddy Said So", the passion of love for the genre remains solid and unabated.

It requires great artistic courage to present compositions and song interpretations which have enjoyed the benefit of innumerable renditions. Douyé uses sensitivity, sincerity, and respect for the genre and its pioneers to present fresh excellent versions of familiar jazz catalog classics; without a hint of recycling, copying, or repetitive rehashing.

"Mood Indigo" is well known; it has been heard, only...Douyé's style of interpretation is original. "Round Midnight" highlights a torch song styling, augmented with a sensual smoky vocal texture, and accentuated with a presence imbued with articulative clarity and precision.

"Body and Soul" engendered memories of Billie Holiday's succulent phrasing and excellent song concluding skills; while "All The Things You Are" spotlights the singer's wonderful tone and pitch combination of song presentation style.

The musicians are excellent! The musical arrangements are outstanding, as displayed in "Autumn Leaves". This song has a delectable jazzy bossa nova treatment and a scintillating flute solo. "Summertime" has a very pleasant introduction with bongos, bass, and voice. It includes an interesting tempo and ensemble arrangement with an exciting delivery.

Douyé artfully self competes with the quality of her work on this third artist recording, by reinventing "Nature Boy" to the pleasurable amazement of Nat "King" Cole fans. This unique arrangement of upright bass and voice is the creation of Ron Carter; a Guinness Book World Record recipient as the most recorded bassist in history. This interesting performance is music art at its best! To this fan's ear and memory, "Nature Boy" has never been presented or heard like this. Douyé and Ron Carter deliver a formidably interesting rendition.

Douyé's "Daddy Said So" is totally different in form, substance, and style, when compared to her two previous releases. She displays an awe inspired respect and appreciation for the work and artistic contribution of the great musical geniuses of yesteryear; while she infuses the collection with courage and contemporary vitality when reintroducing well known and popular standards from the great American Jazz Music catalog.

The release of "Daddy Said So" by Douyé, shows artistic growth, dedication, versatility, sincere appreciation of the genre's masterful contributors, and successful accomplishment. Oh...and the product package presentation is a colorful and fashionable delight! It is good and fortuitously beneficial that Douye' took heed when "Daddy Said So". - Monty Guy

Gorgeous set of old standards by this Nigerian singer with a unique voice and turn of phrase. Every arrangement is augmented by a select combination of some of the best players currently on the scene. And check out the booklet: she has a different stunning outfit for each track! If You Like: Sarah Vaughn. Dee Dee Bridgewater, Nina Simone - Tom McCarter



REVIEWS



DADDY SAID SO Nigerian singer Douye' has a molasses thick voice and keeps it subdued and misty on this rich collection of vintage standards with an all star team including Kenny Barron/p, Ron Carter/b, Bob Sheppard/sax, John Clayton/b, John Clayton/b and Roy McCurdy/dr.

Usually associated with R&B, Douye' is absolutely convincing as she serves up a husky yet subdued set which includes a warm "But Beautiful" an elliptical "Round Midnight" and seductively samba'd "Autumn Leaves." Her voice sounds like a clarinet during "Mood Indigo" and her bass-vocal duet on "Nature Boy" is drop dead stunning. This is a keeper!! - George W. Harriss - Jazz Weekly

Douye has gained a reputation as a singer of classic r&b, but Daddy Says So is something much different. Douye's late father always hoped that she would sing jazz standards someday, and in their last conversation before he passed away, she promised that she would. Daddy Says So is the result.

Douye has an attractive and a warm voice. On Daddy Says So, she sticks close to the lyrics of the classic songs and their melodies except when she sings wordlessly on "I Loves You Porgy" and "Nature Boy." For this project, she is heard with an impressive array of jazz all-stars. Among her sidemen on various cuts are pianists Kenny Barron, John Beasley, Otmaro Ruiz, Benito Gonzalez, Joel Scott, and Rick Germanson, guitarist Russell Malone, bassists John Clayton, Essiet Essiet, and Edwin Livingston, drummers Roy McCurdy, Willie Jones III, and Clayton Cameron, trumpeter Jeremy Pelt, and saxophonists Bob Sheppard, Justo Almarino and Zem Audu, not counting three songs with larger ensembles. In addition, bassist Ron Carter duets with Douye on "Nature Boy."

Throughout the set of well-known standards (which includes "But Beautiful," "Mood Indigo," "Autumn Leaves," "Summertime" and "Besame Mucho"), Douye sings tastefully and with a genuine affection for the songs. Hopefully in the future she will continue to sing jazz and will stretch herself a bit more in her improvising. This is an excellent start. - Scott Yanow - LA Jazz Scene

Her voice is throaty and sensuous, her delivery honest. Douyé "feels" her songs and she "gets" the meaning and the mood. She was born to sing jazz. At a Burbank event Sunday night, October 15, she wowed the audience with her vocals.

Born in Lagos, Nigeria she got her start singing in church. Her father, a jazz "fanatic," played the music constantly, and Douyé would sing along. She began to write poems, then songs. Like her father, jazz was in her blood.

When she was only 11-years-old, her father suddenly became ill. After three days in the hospital, he called for Douyé to come to him. He asked her to make him a promise, that when she became a woman she would sing jazz. "Why do I have to wait until I'm a woman?," she asked. He replied, "Because jazz is life, and you can't sing about life until you have lived." She made that promise, still a bit confused by his insistence. That night he died.

Years later, Douyé moved to America settling in Los Angeles where she studied at the Music Institute in Hollywood. Her first two CDs, Journey and So Much Love, were classic R&B, not jazz. But soon her promise to her beloved father began to haunt her. For several nights she felt his presence. She had to return to jazz.

To ensure that she was making the right career choice, she sang in clubs, getting feedback from accomplished jazz artists, sending them CDs. The response was all positive. Her latest compilation, Daddy Said So, enjoys the artistry of an assortment of respected musicians and Douyé singing legendary jazz tunes such as "Summertime," "Mood Indigo" and "Autumn Leaves." Definitely Grammy material. - Laura Voeth - Toluca Times