



Carole King "**Love Makes The World**" Koch/Rockingale Records

Through the nineteen-sixties, King and her first husband, Gerry Goffin, supplied a substantial part of the soundtrack that planet Earth *hummed along* to, while in the decade that followed, Carole's voice left a personal stamp on that soundtrack with the twenty million plus seller "**Tapestry**." Released three decades ago, the latter disc remained on the Billboard chart for most of the ensuing six years. Sadly, a victim of crippling stage fright, King rarely toured in support of her recordings. While she continued to release recordings over the closing decades of the twentieth century, "**Love Makes The World**" is Carole's first studio album since 1993 and "**Colour Of Your Dreams**." The King [only] penned originals on "**Tapestry**" far outweighed the collaborations, while the reverse is true of this new collection. Aged 59 when this disc was cut, vocally King strains a little on the reprise of the Goffin/King sixties hit "Oh No, Not My Baby" [a US and UK hit for Maxine Brown, Manfred Mann and Rod Stewart] on which Charlie Larkey, hubby # Two, supports her on acoustic bass. As for content this disc remains true to *past form*, since "**Tapestry**" also featured a couple of Goffin collaborations. Her other writing collaborators on this set include Carole Bayer Sager, Babyface and Paul Brady, while the performers adding their weight to the finished track's amount to Celine Dion, K. D. Lang, Steven "Aerosmith" Tyler, Brady, Babyface and Wynton Marsalis. Stylistically King does nothing new here, and "**Love Makes The World**" boils down to a solid and safe collection of tunes that would not have been out of place when her pen and voice ruled the airwaves last century. In that regard, "Monday Without You" is classic chunk of hook laden, sixties pop, while "You Will Find Me There" fits, perfectly, the template she created for future generations of singer/songwriters during the following decade.

Folkwax Rating 7 out of 10

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