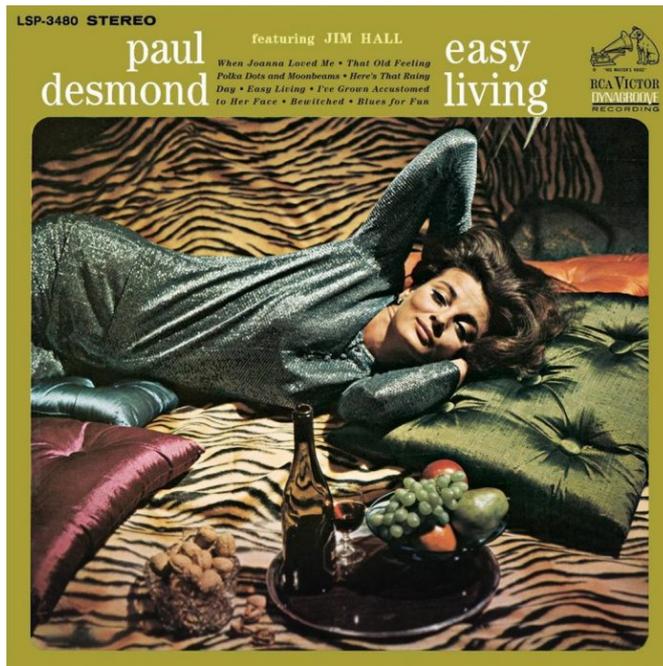


# Paul Desmond: Easy Living

By **Derek Ansell** - 24 April 2019



The front cover of this LP says feature equal partner. The two link up and play musical heaven, so well do they blend.

The programme consists of eight half-plays play elegantly with assistance from drums. The three-year recording period was recorded in the days when top jazz and only in NYC occasionally.

Desmond kicks off *When Joanna Loved Me* with inventive alto choruses. Hall follows with inventive improvised variations.

Desmond, along with Lee Konitz, was an alto player to have and keep his own Parker. It was a sweet sound, smooth sound.

Here he produces thoroughly original versions of almost every track but particularly *Here's That Feeling*. Bassist Cherico introduces an uptempo *Blues For Fun*, the only 12-bar on offer but on themselves immensely and turn in impeccable performances.

The rhythm combinations work well too with the mix of Percy Heath and Kay coming out on top players.

This is modern jazz of the mid-60s with a sweet and velvety texture but none the worse for that benefiting from ideal bass and drum pairings. The sound is excellent on this 180-gram vinyl as original RCA release in 1966.

## Discography

*When Joanna Loved Me; That Old Feeling; Polka Dots And Moonbeams; Here's That Feeling; Accustomed To Her Face; Bewitched; Blues For Fun (41.06)*

Desmond (as); Jim Hall (elg); Gene Cherico, Eugene Wright or Percy Heath (b); Connie Kay  
September 1964 & June 1965.

**RCA LSP 3480 / Speakers Corner**

Opinions or corrections? Send a letter to the editor

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