

# WEEKEND POST LIFE  
02 Jul 2005  
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**CD Reviews**

SAMANTHA  
SMITH



★★★★ ½  
**NIGHT AND DAY,**  
by **New Swing**  
TAKE a big band  
orchestra and add a few  
classic swing tunes.  
Then mix in a dance DJ.  
The result is this album,  
a fusion of old and new  
which makes for  
delicious, sophisticated  
lounge music.

It's a wonderful blend of the old-fashioned, romantic music of the '50s, tweaked by modern technology to pull it into the 21st century.

Dutch singer Frisco Kuperus lends his smoky voice to the album, while fellow house and dance DJ Eddy de Clercq adds the contemporary grooves, for a genre they call New Swing Style.

Old standards like *Night and Day*, *Fly me to the Moon*, *And I Love Her* and *Cry me a River* get a makeover, and although the modern touch is obviously in evidence, it's not overdone and the result is a fantastic revival of some of some fine music.

# SOWETAN TIME OUT  
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■ **Various**

**New Swing - Night & Day**  
**One Singer...One DJ...Big**  
**Band** is the album that  
brings new meaning to swing.



Except for jazz lovers, young people often shy away from great genres such as swing and big band, dubbing them old fashioned.

Until you listen carefully to the musical poetry that flows on this album you won't realise what you have been missing.

It is a tribute to seasoned music and a timeless era in which musicians' creative juices simply ran amok.

If this collaboration from singer Friso Kuperus, DJ Eddy de Clercq & The Jack Million Big Band Orchestra does not find favour with music lovers across the spectrum, I don't know what will. ★★★★★

**VARIOUS ARTISTS**

New Swing - Night and Day

Jocelyn Newmarch

Mon, 04 Jul 2005

Cole Porter remixed for the house generation? Surely not — it's enough to send a shudder up any Bubl  devotee's spine. The Caf  del Mar crowd, on the other hand, might well approve.

I'm always wary of remixes. Frankly, they never sound half as good as the originals and sound cheap and trashy faster than you can say "Britney". But I have been known to break my ironclad rule on a few memorable occasions. For example, my Cesaria Evora remix is just the thing for a languid cocktail at sunset, or, for that matter, a quick spin in a red-hot Mini Cooper, which in itself may be thought of as an automobile remix.

## ZOUTH AFRICA RELEASE EMI & REVIEWS

On seeing the 'New Swing - Night and Day' album (subtitled as 'One singer, one DJ, one big band' — eek) any normal person would have walked away. Quickly. Without looking back.

I hesitated. My curiosity got the better of me... and I ended up giving it a listen.

It's not that bad, actually. The liner notes admit that this is "a seemingly unusual and challenging combination" but it's easy on the air, and blends almost imperceptibly into the background. Jazz singer Friso Kuperus provides the vocals, with gusto, the Jack Million Orchestra sounds appropriately authentic, and DJ Eddy de Clercq injects verve and subtlety (a tricky combination) into his electronica.

Good music for when you want to sound sophisticated and cutting-edge, but still soulful and sensitive. And you'll be able to talk over it fairly easily too.

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**"It's a chic update on those old standards, well executed and highly danceable"**

### **New Swing - Night and Day**

**New Swing's three protagonists bring crooning, house dj stylings and big-band together. Despite his purist tendencies, Marshall digs it.**

*by Marshall - 27.06.2005 for Urge Media South Africa*

### **New Swing Night and Day**

**Label: EMI** :Singer Friso Kuperus, DJ Eddy de Clercq and big band leader Jack Coenen are New Swing, a trio of variously skilled musical journeymen who, according to the sleeve notes, have realised a dream in making an album that fuses each of their respective genres and disciplines.

Amazingly, the result is quite satisfying. The album's sound is rich and textured, and the classic (American) songs, traditionally arranged as big band or lounge songs, seem to have been given new life by a tasteful and well-considered arrangement.

First, Kuperus is not so much a forceful singer as an alluring vocalist. His ability to phrase vocal lines to sound like liquid glue instantly attach you to the songs, much like a younger Frank Sinatra used to do. He actually seems to deliver the lyrical content of the songs with a nonchalance, while at the same time staying faithful to

## ZOUTH AFRICA RELEASE EMI & REVIEWS

the familiar core melodies.

Eddy de Clercq, on the other hand, is a key figure in the development of Dutch House and Dance music. His economic use of loop and dj magic injects a fresh but not-too-intense energy into these standards. To emphasise, this could so easily have gone wrong. Thankfully, on many occasions it's actually hard to decide whether or not programmed or sampled rhythms are present in the music - which is more than can be said for the recently popular Buddha Bar or Café del Mar series.

But the real sweetness of New Swing resides in the big band arrangements poured over the top of this era-bending blend. There's a big Euro-latin sound to these arrangements, which are themselves very reminiscent of the sweeping Brazilian-tinged Walter Wanderly sound sets from the late sixties. Jack Coenen has given thought to Kunderus' Sinatra-stylings, and appropriately referenced his arrangements to that singer's 60s-era recordings.

Save for the odd falter - a reworking of The Ames' Brothers' 1957 hit "Melody d'Amour" as "Cha Cha Cha d'Amour, for example - this is a rewarding project. It's a chic update on those old standards, well executed and highly danceable. Standout moments include Bart Howard's "Fly Me To The Moon" and the title track, Cole Porter's "Night and Day". Let's not forget the Gershwins' " 's Wonderful", and you've got a great gift CD that'll please anyone from your mom and dad to your mature romantic interest.