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# Among The Stars

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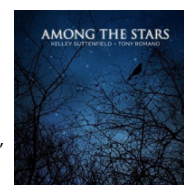
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## Kelley Sутtenfield: Among The Stars (2014)

By [DAN BILAWSKY](#), Published: September 14, 2014 | 1,272 views

Vocalist and nylon-string guitar. That's it. Nothing else to hear on this one, but nothing else is really needed.

Vocalist Kelley Sутtenfield's first album—*Where Is Love* (Rhombus Records, 2009)—was a well-crafted, full band affair that reimagined the works of everybody from [Wes Montgomery](#) ("West Coast Blues") to [Caetano Veloso](#) ("Coração Vagabundo") to The Platters ("Twilight Time"). On her sophomore date, she strips away the band, leaving only guitarist [Tony Romano](#) in the picture to help her explore music of the night and songs of love.



*Among The Stars* offers quiet and absorbing takes on jazz standards along with classics from singer-songwriters like [Neil Young](#) and [Bob Dylan](#). In theory, pieces like "Fly Me To The Moon" and "Harvest Moon" may not seem like they belong back-to-back on the same program, but Sутtenfield and Romano shape each and every number to fit their aesthetic. "Fly Me To The Moon," for example, has no Sinatra-esque swinging swagger to it, moving instead atop moody lines, and there's no steady strum to calmly propel "Harvest Moon." Actually, there's rarely any steady strum to speak of. Romano isn't a four-chords-to-a-bar accompanist. He's far more interactive with song and singer, dropping his own bass notes into place, connecting the harmonic dots with single note lines, and giving the occasional chordal punctuation or aside. When Romano does wear the rhythm guitarist hat, as on parts of the striking "Just Say I Love Him," he remains understated in his approach.

Sутtenfield's voice has been rightly compared to that of [Susannah McCorkle](#) in the past, but that connection is really just a surface similarity. McCorkle had great highs and lows in her delivery; Sутtenfield works in narrower confines, but she knows her working space *extremely* well. She doesn't usually look upward toward the heavens or explore the depths, preferring instead to get the most out of the middle ground.

These ten numbers come and go in less than forty minutes, but that's more than enough time for Sутtenfield and Romano to make a lovely statement. *Among The Stars* is a real low-key charmer.

Track Listing: Fly Me To The Moon; Harvest Moon; Beautiful Love; Wash Me Clean; Just Say I Love Him; One Fine Day; Try Your Wings; People Will Say We're In Love; Until It's Time For You To Go; I'll Be Your Baby Tonight.

Personnel: Kelley Sутtenfield: vocals; Tony Romano: guitar.

Record Label: Self Produced

Style: [Vocal](#)

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