



Featured Artist: Charged Particles

CD Title: Sparks

Year: 2002

Record Label: BOPO Records

Style: Contemporary Jazz

Musicians: Caleb Hutslar (keyboards), Mike Rak (bass guitar), Jon Krosnick (percussion)

Review: Here are three performers that can write great music. The songs on *Sparks* are some of the better instrumentals I have heard in a long time. However, the Columbus, Ohio based group Charged Particles should have more people in it so those songs can have greater meaning. It is nice that keyboardist Caleb Hutslar is doing great keyboard work to provide an orchestral feel to *Sparks*, however the most impressive songs on the CD are *A Smile of Love*, *Void Where Prohibited* and *Continue* which shows that sometimes the best songs are the ones that have the least amount of fluff.

In some of the other songs on *Sparks*, just the addition of one person could bring new meaning to the song. For instance, a sax or trumpet on *Evening Street* could bring a more Latin feel for the song. An electric guitar on *Monopoly* would bring a harder edge to the song that would make it much more appealing. Just that one added instrument would bring new life to many of the songs on *Sparks*.

From some of the promotional material I received about Charged Particles, they are going to be doing some concerts with symphony orchestras. That is when the group will find out how good the songs written by Hutslar, bass guitarist Mike Rak and percussionist Jon Krosnick are when performed by a larger group. From those performance, they will know what could be added to the group to make their own dates sound better. The CD *Sparks* is only the beginning of what Charged Particles can do. Those performances with the symphonies will bring electric sparks to the audience.

Record Label Website: <http://www.boporecords.com/>

Artist's Website: <http://www.chargedparticles.com/>

Reviewed by: [Norm Breest](#)

