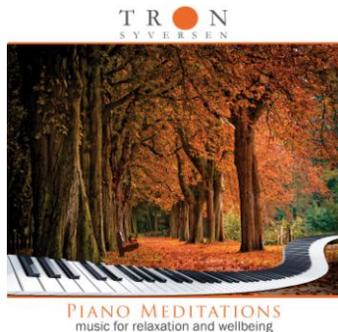


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Piano Meditations

By Tron Syversen

Review Written by Steve Sheppard

The art in creating an album that wishes to reflect the essence of meditation within it has to have a spacious and ambient landscape created for the listener to dwell and explore in.

Tron Syversen has not only done that, he has also manifested something quite stunningly beautiful in the process. Take the opening piece, which is one of four compositions on the album and called **Ocean of Relaxation**. Here we have some delightful piano, accompanied with a constant and nurturing vocal section that runs through the composition, the harmonies here are angelic in their energies and thus the perfect piece is born, the timing is also idyllic, at just under 10 minutes Syversen has birthed an opening gem to inspire us further on our meditative journey.

At times whilst listening to this album I was pulled back in time to the years of New Age composer Phil Chapman, the album Heavenly Realms and perhaps a little Mike Rowland as well, with the release And So to Dream. I hadn't realised just how much I had missed those two albums, but here **Tron Syversen** is

bringing back the good times of classic New Age music and adding a little special magic to the mix as well.

This has been another one of those beautiful new releases I cannot stop listening to and Syversen has emphasised that beauty on the track, **A Peaceful Path to Forever**. The angelic vocals remind me of the great Imogen Moore back in the days of Terry Oldfield; this is another beautifully performed piano based composition that flows straight from the heart. The layers that have been used here to bring this creation into musical manifestation are an art form in themselves. I also guarantee that after listening to this piece, you will hardly notice that near on 20 minutes has gone by; the meditative essence of peace and tranquillity is superb here.

At the midway point dear constant reader and listener we are given an arrangement called **Golden Forest**. There is a very slight elevation in tempo within this piece and the melody flows with a little more energy than the two preceding arrangements, but the intent here is to fill you perhaps with a narrative of imagery, one could easily imagine walking through an autumn forest with this music all around you, the 20 minute opus is here for you dear listener, you can literally wander within its realms and enjoy each musical nuance as you go. Take a listen to Syversen's intricate performance on Piano, using the skill of knowing when to raise and lower the very musical vibrations and the constant and now very gentle vocals seem to float majestically and very magically around this autumnal forest of sight and sound.

The last track off the album is called **Inner Journey** and was my favourite composition of the release **Piano Meditations**. For me **Inner Journey** had that slight air of mystery layered into the mix and also had a hint of a Deuter styled composition on the musical menu. Once more the Piano was superbly played with such passion and intent it drives us home again with a smile and a happiness that one can only have when one has been totally fulfilled by the music offered. There is also a gentle passage at the half way mark that mildly escalates into an almost angelic crescendo soon after, both cleverly done and almost cinematic styled layer to the creation, the strings on Inner Journey really emphasise just what an amazing album **Piano Meditations** actually is.

After giving myself some time to allow this album to sink in, I would recommend to you dear reader and listener to give this one a try, after much thought and deliberation, I rate this to be one of the most important New Age music albums to be released this century, the care and attention to detail, the musicianship and performances on this release, should allow Piano Meditations the album, to achieve and deserve the recognition it will hopefully get.