

Solstice

BY

Danae Vlasse & Mischa Lefkowitz

Written by

Steve Sheppard

I must admit I have listened to this album a few times now and have become spell bound each time I do so, the juxtaposition between the piano and violin is simply a delight that is too good to pass by. This magical contrast of tone and timbre is a true combination of musical genius.

You only have to listen to the opening piece off the album **Réverie** to sample that very energy of utter talent for yourself. Vlasse on piano is like watching one of the most beautiful sunsets you would ever wish to gaze upon and is utterly exceptional with every note played and Lefkowitz is like the golden horizon it falls beneath.

The album has nine wonderful tracks to sail away in, like the short form arrangement of **Trois Chansons for Violin & Piano: I**, where the violin of Lefkowitz manifests an ambience of his own, one can hardly believe that this composition is just under three minutes in duration, and then we can listen to the extremely descriptive narrative of **Berceuse Pour Beau**, one can feel energies of love here like no other, and the imploring performance by both artists is sublime in capturing this most meaningful of moods.

Solstice is an album that will draw you into its musical dimensions with the ease of a magicians gaze; I personally enjoyed the sojourn within the composition **The Sea**, the fluency and creativity employed here was utterly amazing, it was very easy for me to listen to the consistency of Vlasse on Piano and drift away of boundless oceans with Lefkowitz's violin, then to be completely amazed by Vlasse's execution of intent and power just after the nine minute marker, simply breath taking indeed.

Solstice is a nine part album of blissful piano and violin in the classical style that will entertain the listener and manifest such a level of musical beauty, perhaps one that is unlikely to have been touched thus far. **Danae Vlasse** and **Mischa Lefkowitz** are consummate professionals; their abilities are matched by their focus and charming performances, their fluency and incredible symbiotic implementations are simply something that all should sample, how can one not recommend this album, it is unquestionably magnificent.