

Voices of the Guardians

By

Gareth Laffely and Lance Bendiksen

Written by

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Voices of the Guardians must be one of the most uplifting and inspiring *Native American* albums to have come out of the industry for a decade. Laffely and Bendiksen have indeed created with the help of the amazing *Skywalker Symphony* and the vocal talents of the outstanding *Wes Studi*, an album that will live forever in the hearts of all.

The symphonic nature combined with the utter brilliance on flue of Laffely simply stuns me into silence whilst listening, and tracks like the effervescent **Spirit Quest** and the breath taking **Apache Tears** are fine examples of this musical genius at work.

I usually like to name a favourite or two on my reviews, but this time I cannot do so, as each and every composition lays next to my heart with an abundance of joy and oneness, tracks like **Sacred Hoop**, an offering and a subject which is part of my very soul still raises the energies within me, the piano, percussion and flute all in perfect symbiosis is simple blissful.

Studi's powerful words feature on many tracks and are especially empowering in the arrangement **Reaching The Border**. The piano of Bendiksen is truly superb here and narrates the tale of the journey so well with Laffely's flute.

This entire album has been created through truth, love and respect and these qualities echo through the canyons of this album with an obvious intent to inspire the need of love, a desire of peace and tolerance of attitude; tracks like the inspiring **Elders**, and the last offering, the deeply moving **Traditions** remind us that this is so.

Voices of the Guardians has it all, dramatic flair, great style of composition and arrangement, perfect production, an honest and loving intent to highlight that perhaps at least through music, we can all be one, it would be impossible not to recommend this album it is that good.