

# **Canyon Shadows**

**By**

**Joanne Lazzaro**

**Written by**

**Steve Sheppard**

It's good to see a new **Joanne Lazzaro** album appear on my desktop, I was only thinking about her release *Under the Stars* from 2015 the other day, amazing to think that three years have since past, but here she is with a band called *Dreamcatcher* and producing a wonderfully natural release for us all to enjoy more of her ever so fluent flute once again. The album score was originally written by Katherine Hoover and this is the first album Joanne has produced.

**Canyon Shadows** is an eight piece album that starts with the opener **Searching**, an inventive and calming offering that draws a peace filled narrative for to carry us along to a more vibrant offering entitled **Moving In**, here we almost dance to the rhythm's she creates; this is a special offering as well, a nice layered composition can be found here with flutes that seems to hover, twist and turn with each other.

Lazzaro became a bit of a fan favourite with her last album, and I can see the same happening with this one too, her long notes pull us in on the piece **Echo**, one which has a delightful haunting energy that transforms with the percussion and allows us to drift easily into the next track called **Celebration** with great ease. This is a real fun offering, a lively tempo can be found here, but the organic feel of this arrangement was incredibly appealing to me and I would think also for many of the listeners who adore this genre.

With pieces like the sultry and mysterious **Dusk**, a track that I actually had to play several times; the attention to detail here is amazing, there is also an almost touching of the hem, of the classical minimalistic style, that does indeed graphically portray this time of day here.

Quite appropriately **Searching (Desert Dawn Mix)** is next and natural sounds lead us into a track that has a slow and warm nature about its construction, within this piece one could feel like they are walking towards an oasis on the edge of some vast desert in the early hours of the day.

Two further remixes end the album as we take an alternative look at the track **Echo** with the **Canyon Mix** and finish with re-envisioned musical musing of the track **Dusk** with the **Desert Night Fall Mix**, both very inventive and well-crafted mixes indeed.

**Canyon Shadows** by **Joanne Lazzaro** has that real organic feel about it; one that I am sure will appeal to lovers of naturally manifested music. Lazzaro's flute performances are profoundly inventive and well played, she has really become the story teller of her genre and I am sure that the listeners will be enraptured by this fresh and spontaneous release.