

In The Distance

By

Michael Bohne

Written by

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Michael Bohne is a new artist to me, but anyone who starts an album off in such an artistic manner as Bohne does with **When the Time Comes**, the ticking of an old clock and a steady rainfall outside the window, is always going to get a thumbs up from me, it's the perfect way to draw a wonderful opening narrative to a new album.

In The Distance by **Michael Bohne** is a new and fresh look into the world of solo piano, one that takes many twists and turns down the alleyways of the genre, when we reach the composition **Regarding Stonehenge** I am stunned, as it reminds me so very much of **Cristofori's Dream** by the amazing **David Lanz**.

The energy and effervesce of this next offering is intriguing too and called **Solar Flare**, there is a serious essence here that almost tells of a warning within music, the tempo is almost breathless in its arrangement, one that is quite addictive to listen to.

This next piece is one of my personal favourites and entitled **Never Looking Back**. This has such a depth that it is undeniably emotive in its construction; however there is also a gentleness of performance here, which shows its light and darkness, as the arrangement moves ever onward, perhaps giving us hope from lessons learned in life.

The moody refrains of this next piece enthralled me and took me on a voyage of reflection like no other, this is called **Descent** and there is such sadness on its musical shoulders, there is an emphasis of days that were happier contained

within, but as a performance Bohne has manifested one of the most meaningful tracks I have heard in this genre for a long while.

Phantoms Along the Shore takes us over the half way marker and is a sublimely fluent offering that seems to illustrate a really picturesque moment in time, there can be no doubt that Bohne really feels his music and the style of arrangement here is fascinating, pay also close attention to the ending of the track, leaving us in anticipation of more, or have the phantom's just dissipated into the ether?

The Wolves' Den is a well-crafted offering, there is a deepness of intensity here that is beautiful to listen to, but once more I am impressed with the artists ability to change from shadow to lightness and back again with such a calming, yet insightful ease, this piece is a fine example of that and also one that manifests a mood of depth and texture at the same time quite cleverly.

The shorter styled composition entitled **Disconnected** is up next; here we get to hear that fluency mentioned earlier in complete abundance, one that leads us sublimely into the next offering called **Taking the Scenic Route**. This for me was my favourite off the album, from the very first notes I could picture taking that route, sometimes you find things you never imagined and beauties in abundance may lay just around the corner, as of yet unfound, perhaps this piece could be the soundtrack for this moment of musical exploration.

We are near to completing our voyage and we do so by listening to this next piece called **Fading Memories**, our penultimate offering. This is a real treasure in the attic arrangement, but even as we do come across those gems from yesteryear, it seems to get harder to picture their energy in the mind. Here Bohne draws a quite loving last look back at the past, minor and major keys manifest a truly memorable offering and after all perhaps music is something we won't forget.

So we arrive at the docking of our boat along this river of solo piano by artist **Michael Bohne** and he finishes with his last gift for us to enjoy, called **When the Stars Disappeared**. This anthem like ending piece has all the hall marks of a future great solo piano composition, the fluent and charming tones from this quite powerful offering are emotive and leaves us, the listener, with a flutter in the heart and a tear in the eye.

In The Distance by **Michael Bohne** is a moving and deeply personal release, one can feel the healing and cathartic energies that flow from his piano. The *David Lanz* influence is strong in this offering, you can feel that. Bohne has performed with his musical heart on his sleeve with the release of this album and anyone who adores solo piano, will fall in love with **In The Distance** and welcome it lovingly into their ever growing collections of very classy music.