

Emily

By

Paul Constable

Written by

Steve Sheppard

I was in the mood today to listen to something soothing, something tranquil and ambient, and I was fortunate enough therefore to find just that within the realms of this new album by **Paul Constable** entitled **Emily**.

Constable's work on this album is delightful, from the very first piece called **All I Have** we are delivered such a wonderful landscape of sound and tone, the piano and the serene backdrop of textured keyboards drew a lush, but overwhelmingly artistic moment to enjoy, this is ambient piano at its best.

As we drift to the next offering, which is called **My Heart and This**, we find another crafted composition of great care and love. The performance here was incredibly deep and quite moving. Constable's skill set of being able to manifest such a compelling musical narrative is truly delightful to listen to, and in just two tracks my mood had become much more mellow and content.

All the Fields is our next musical sojourn, so let's lay down in this meadow of utter bliss and enjoy the moment, the addition of gentle keyboards in the background of this offering brought a level of peace and serenity to the overall construction of the track, but one has to really emphasize just how good each and every performance is by the artist, Constable has his own unique style and it seems to manifest such a wonderful sense of calm as it unfurls.

There could be many comparisons to others here on this next composition entitled **All the Meadows**, Florida's own *Mark Barnes* could be one, or the UK's own *Mike Rowland* another, both fine pianists, keyboard performers and composers, Constable has that skill and talent to more than match them,

especially with an inventive offering like this, one that also has a rather beautiful sense of a hovering drama contained within it too.

Should I Forget is up next, this short form arrangement is incredibly ambient, the same way that *David Naegele* was on his *Temple in the Forest* album back in 1982, but here the pristine and gentle performance on the keys, is sublime in creating an atmospheric environment with which to be totally at one with, this for me was one of my favourite songs off the album.

As we find ourselves in the deeper waters of this release we come across another moving, but almost transcendent offering called **The Sum of All**. At times I can sense a real flavour of pure emotion, but not one that has been held back, but one that is bathed in a confident approach to creating something that is utterly beautiful, and this for me is **The Sum of It All**.

We now find ourselves knocking of the door of the penultimate piece off the release, and waiting there for us is an offering called, **This and My Heart**. Without doubt the most emotive composition off the album and one that shows Constable's performance on piano up at his brightest and its best, the depth and fluency on this piece was splendid and it soon became for me my stand out offering on the album. I have a feeling I am going to be playing this one relentlessly for years to come; an amazing track, created with skill and style.

So to the very last gift from **Paul Constable**, and it is called **Where Clover Dwell**. I feel I must draw your attention to the front cover of the album art work here, try doing what I did, listen to the album whilst gazing at this moving scene in nature, this piece for me seems to sum up the outstanding natural beauty of both the performance and the arrangement, I could easily be sitting under that tree, watching the storm clouds, whilst poppies and clover wave gently in my direction.

I have now played this album three times and I can assure you that figure will rise; **Emily** by **Paul Constable** is one of the best slices of ambient piano in a new age style I have heard for ages. I truly appreciated the arrangements and productions as well; I personally felt that the music allowed me many moments to wonder freely among the myriad tones of ambience contained within. **Emily** is an album that apart from being incredibly creative, it is

incredibly addictive and utterly artistically inventive, and one that I am more than happy to recommend, I said it earlier and I will say it again, this is ambient piano at its best!