

All Through the Night

By

Pam Asberry

Written by

Steve Sheppard

To use a well-worn saying, I feel full of beans today, and the reason for that is because I have just had the best night's sleep in months, that gives me somewhat of a tenuous literal link to this current review of nocturnal niceties entitled, **All Through the Night** by **Pam Asberry**.

Asberry is fast becoming one of the most prolific and sort out pianists of her day, and has just achieved another mighty goal by topping the *One World Music* Radio album charts with her last release *A Presence of Wonder*, and here she is with an album to ease us all into a blissful night's sleep, perchance to dream.

One rarity starts us off; a French/English joint effort is first with **Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star**. A Lullaby from one country and the melody from the other, and here Asberry tweaks it with subtle perfection into something very charming indeed, much like the next offering entitled **All Through the Night** and of course is the title track, I'm sure you will recognise it when you hear it, Asberry's performance is very classy and artistic with each note played.

Asberry Siciliano is a wonderful take on a sonata thought to have been created by *J.S Bach*, and while there is something quite regal about this offering, it also offers up a feeling of great warmth that seems to radiate throughout the arrangement.

On **Brahms' Lullaby** we have a delicious variance on something most of us parents will have heard, sung or hummed at some point in our lives, and **All the Pretty Little Horses** is a really dream like offering that Asberry has added a

quality of kindness and care into too; that is so deeply moving to witness audibly.

There is no doubt that this collection of a night time offerings is incredibly soothing, as you will indeed hear from pieces like **Sleepy Tide**, a track that time itself is washed away by such beautiful tones, and **Bedtime Story** a track that is so pristine, that one could almost see a china doll dancing to it.

Asberry is literally filled with music; her muse has been passionately pursuing completed compositions in 2019 with an urgency, and this desire for me has been well met with this my favourite track off the album entitled **Evening Prayer**, a piece so fluent and tranquil, I can feel a wave of calm wash over me in what is a loving performance indeed.

The Sandman is always waiting under your bed, sleepy head, however this Sandman is a gentle one that wishes to lull you off into a dream free reverie of a calming restful sojourn, well this is how this one speaks to me anyway, well done **Pam Asberry**.

Lullaby for Mackenzie is a dedication composition that is filled with real love, light and gratitude, but the next piece I must admit I have not heard since 1975 and called **Abiyoyo**, performed by the *Spinners* back then; this one really takes me back to a much simpler time, and Asberry's rendition pays homage to this Bantu Lullaby beautifully.

Our eyes can no longer stay open, our lids flicker now for the last time, and as they do so the artist plays us one final ending offering entitled **Reverie**, this final composition will indeed leave us alone with our thoughts, and perhaps perchance to take up that daydreaming moment we have all been waiting for.

All Through the Night is an amiable musical amble through a peaceful slumber, with reference to the context it is most certainly fit for purpose, and each purchaser of this album is pretty much guaranteed a peaceful night time perambulation of great tranquillity. **Pam Asberry** is fast becoming a household name of good consistent quality solo piano music today, and the release of an album of this ilk has thus cemented her legacy in this genre even more so.