

Sempre: A New Dimension

By

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Written by

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The Cello is a remarkable instrument, it is a creator of reflective musical images that can sometimes break the heart, and at other times bring comfort and delight to the soul, it seems **Ian Maksin** feels somewhat similar to myself, as his love of the Cello shines like a beacon in the night on this his latest release entitled, **Sempre: A New Dimension**.

Sempre I believe means loosely, always, forever, and this opening piece called just that gives us a charming opening to the album, one that lays the melody open for us all to enjoy, and makes the music truly accessible to all, in a very stylish opening composition.

At just five years old the artist was entranced by the Cello, his deft skills on this next offering is a sample of that cultured craft on the composition called **Blues Au Jardin Du Luxembourg**. This fine example of a crossover arrangement is not only superbly played; it is done so with such a high level of skill and fluency to manifest something that is so incredibly transfixing.

On **Vancouver Rain** we have a track that has a real energy of reflection within its overall construction, there is something about this opus that is wonderfully addictive, but then the Cello is a masterful instrument, a tool of musical emotion and charm, and on this piece you have both, a combination of a slight Jazz ethic, blues and a little classical all meet to manifest a thoroughly compelling piece.

The short form piece **Summer Garden** could have taken us back in time to years gone by, to an era where the summers were as long as ladies dresses, this beautifully little danceable number will Waltz its way into your heart.

Respiro was one of my favourites off the album, its depth and intensity drew me into the composition with ease, it is without doubt the most fluent arrangement off the release. Strange thing is I feel so drawn to this music, and have now listened to it three times in a row already, the beauty of the arrangement is utterly outstanding, and now if you pardon me, I will enjoy its refrains again and just, breathe!

Lacrimae Novae is our next offering and another moving moment of musical interpretation from Maksim. At slightly under 6 minutes we have a piece that held its energies quite beautifully and manifested something quite ambient for me. This would be another favourite of mine, the depth in both performance and arrangement was sublime and to be honest, I could have listened to this on repeat for hours and would have still loved every second of it, a track as deeply mournful as the tears of a young child.

A shift in energy occurs as we reach the track entitled **Per Me Per Te**, a familiar tune indeed, but one played by the artist with a true uniqueness of style and performance. The melody seems to drift in and out with each note played, as if we stand on a musical shore and the tide of time and tone moves back and forth before us.

If we were silent within silence, perhaps we could detect the universal love we can all tap into, this is made much easier when listening to the following track entitled **Sunset On The Cascade**. A redolent moment, a halcyon segment of musical life; I can picture myself with my wife, just outside of the harbour on a boat, and as the engine stills, this music plays in the background across the backdrop of the Mediterranean ocean, as a glorious orange sun sets beneath salmon pink skies.

We have finally reached the last composition on the album; it is called **Brand New Page**. A fine sense of movement can be found here with the light but pertinent percussion that is contained within, this lively and vibrant song is simply the perfect way to leave an album of such classy intent.

Sempre: A New Dimension is an album that will hook it's listeners with the intent of entertaining and engaging its audience in something fresh new and exciting. **Ian Maksin** has brought something very different to this musical table of ours, and I think you will love it, his unique performance style is bathed with such intelligence and class that each and every composition is a story unto its own, a thoroughly thoughtful and fascinating release, one that offers it's listeners a totally different musical perspective.