

Peace Be

By

David Jennings

Written by

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Another new avenue of music to walk down for me, as for the first time I get to listen to **David Jennings**, this latest release is entitled **Peace Be**, and what beautiful moments of a musical voyage it would turn out to be.

The starting offering is entitled **Truth**, the strings here manifest something quite breath taking; a certain cinematic quality can also be located at the very heart of this fine starting piece.

Jennings has been many things in his musical life, and has touched many projects and hearts along the way, and offerings like this next one called **Presence** is a fine example of this composers genius, the Cello in partnership with the piano creates a particularly appealing symbiotic partnership, that when strings are added it becomes utterly undeniable.

The unique quality, textures and sounds on this album are completely fresh and at times quite exhilarating, listen to **Observing the Dance** as an example, this has a bright energy about its construction that makes it a truly compelling composition, whilst completely different, there is a similarity in tone and intention to *Save The Dance by Holland Phillips* from a few years back, the answer is that inside each of us, a dance waiting to happen and the fluency of tracks like this can only help but to relieve that frustration.

There is a decided cinematic broadcast TV quality to this album that is intriguing, many of the pieces could easily be heard on shows across our screens, **Peace Be** though is one of those delightful Jazz styled offerings that will last within your mind's eye forever, as a title track it has a rich and enticing texture and what a beautiful lush

section from the artist on Vibraphone, it took me literally back to those wonderful *Autumn Leaves*, and I would personally say that this was my favourite from the release.

The more contemporary instrumental nature of the album came to the fore on this next opus called **Timeless**. Strings have never sound so good and so full flowing, creating something so emotive and everlasting, this is one of those pieces that you would find yourself favouring on a playlist without thinking why, it has that quality of sound that will never die, and one that will always remain closer to the heart.

Freedom is an interesting movement of musical creation; the tempo has changed to a slower yet more direct style. For me it expresses a newly found feeling of unfettered movement, which at times is unsure, but never the less undeniable. This composition seems to constantly build and progress and is probably the most addictive track off the release to listen to.

We have another change on **Beloved** as an angelic female vocalisation greets our senses and takes us up high into the very realms of musical possibilities, with a track so fascinating and enthralling in its content, that it's siren call manifests something that you will not be able to stop listening to, at times classical in a chamber ethic, with moments that contain minimalistic and ambient nuance's, but so craft-fully arranged and performed this one of those offerings you will find yourself coming back to, over and over again, like me!

The last doorway to cross through on this musical sojourn is entitled **The Moments**. Our lives are made up of many of them; we drift in and out of an eternal sequence of moments and perhaps as we do so we could carry this music with us, it's a fine ending composition, one that seems to sum up the entire concept of the album in a single song and the perfect way to leave the release.

Peace Be has to be one of the most unique albums I have listened to this year, for me it's one I am going to revisit many times over. There is a wondrous level of musicianship here that needs to be recognised, and **David Jennings** and the **Midwest Mozart Festival String Quartet** should be applauded for shaking up this genre, and bringing us something that is not only original and exciting but wonderfully performed and intelligently created, full marks from me and recommended to all those who wish to push those musical boundaries as well.