

Love Themes for Solo Piano

By

Dan Chadburn

Written by

Steve Sheppard

I have followed the musical pathways of **Dan Chadburn** for some years now and I rate him as being the most sensitive piano performer on the planet. His passion and heart always reside deeply within each piece he composes and performs; we now have a new delight from Chadburn to feast upon called, **Love Themes for Solo Piano**.

The voyage begins with the passionate and colourful arrangement entitled **Starlit Waltz**. I must admit I was surprised when I heard the sheer intent and power in this opening offering, it's an emotionally explosive way to start the album and one that will move you very deeply indeed.

The following composition is called **Gentle Touch** and never has a song been better named, this has to be one of my all-time favourite Chadburn pieces, at times ambient, but at all times incredibly beautiful, one of many perfect examples of that aforementioned sensitivity on the keys I spoke of earlier.

A true sparkling offering is up next and called **Cherished**, now I wonder how many of us look to our partners and tell them they are cherished? Being appreciative of another's love is such a wonderful thing, and now through this composition you have the soundtrack for that very moment, smooth, tranquil and a meaningful work indeed from Chadburn.

There is a wonderful moment that sometimes occurs in life, a moment that becomes timeless, when we let go of everything and just be, and thus appreciate the stillness in all things. **Stillness** is another offering that whilst ambient in construction and soothing in its musical narrative, it has a

wonderful sense of charm all of its own, Chadburn's performance on this piece is quite moving indeed.

The breath taking excitement of something new into the world is something not to be treated lightly, on **Newborn Joy**, the artist plays with freedom of spirit and a lightness of heart, a track that contains some very pleasurable moments of happiness and glee, all bathed in a colourful splendid joyful repose.

We are about to take one single step into the second half of the album, but before we do so we must navigate the rich tapestries of this next offering entitled **Timeless**. With time being the great master of illusion we have two choices, to obey it's rules, or create something free from it, words of unconditional love are timeless statements of a truthful intent, and ones that reside in a world and a heart that is free from minutes and hours, here Chadburn has manifested the music from another realm entirely, this is a masterful performance on piano by the artist.

A deeper well of sound greets our senses as we come across the track called **Grounded**. This is something we all need to do from time to time, we must create a solid base from which to operate from, once more **Dan Chadburn** is the master architect, he has brought into the world something that is so listenable, this enticing combination of ambience and melody, makes this piece my number one offering off the release, I cannot stop listening to it.

The imploring tones and musical narrative of **Longing** takes us into the misty dimensions of a heart felt love, one that literally tugs at our own tenderness and recites a desperately needful desire to be one, to be whole again. Chadburn's ability to add a certain flourish to his performance and still retain a truly attractive sense of passion within the music is an example of balance personified.

Reminisce does indeed carry that reflective nuance on its shoulders like an old familiar overcoat of love, one has been wrapped around you for many years perhaps. The gentle floating chords here are warming to feel, and the melody equally so, this is really old style new age piano at it's very best by the artist.

Interestingly enough I mentioned unconditional love earlier on and now that seems to have been somewhat prophetic, as we come across the composition **Unconditional**. I can really relate to this piece of music, for a few emotional reasons of my own, some bad and now others that are very good; the performance here is quite emotional, it is as if Chadburn is truly playing with his heart on his sleeve, there is also a sense of pride and pleasure that reverberates from this stunning opus, laced with an honest and heartfelt intent.

The penultimate piece is something I pretty much mention and state every single day, I am **Grateful**. There are indeed so many things to be grateful for if you give yourself time to think about it. **Dan Chadburn** clearly knows this to be true, by this fine performance, the gentle passages, mixed with ones that are almost musical statements of lessons learned, and happiness eventually found, are so beautifully portrayed here on this composition.

So sadly, and I say so, as I do adore the music of **Dan Chadburn**, we must bid farewell to another album with the last offering called **Shalom**. Oh how poignant is this composition, during the creation of this album the artists mother passed on, and this is his musical testament to her, and I will say this as a final word, dear *Margret* you have every right to be proud of your son.

I really don't know how he does it, but **Dan Chadburn** keeps coming up with one great album after another, and it gives me great pleasure to say that I rate this work of his to be his best thus far. The artist on **Love Themes for Solo Piano** has brought to us all devoted piano fans, something truly special to end the year with, reflective, moving, charming and deeply sensitive, this album has it all, and is of course without doubt, thoroughly recommended.