

Australian-based and globally-enriched, Galliano Somnavilla incorporates a wide variety of jazz, classical, new age, and electronica-inspired songs for the new album, *Welcome To My Side Of The World*. There are fourteen songs in all that feature enchanting, pensive, and upbeat music that is entirely instrumental. As a mixer, producer, and composer, Galliano shares the world of music with jazzy interludes, avant-garde displays, and dreamy soundscapes that are adventurous and mystical.

“Run Like The Wind” opens with a few scintillating keyboard sounds, piano notes, and symphonic washes with a little acoustic guitar thrown in for a jazzy and flamenco tinge. The percussion set kicks in with wood block, drums, and gurgling sounds of electronic beauty. A few pensive guitar strums and horn-like, angelic keyboard sounds signal a melody not unlike Tangerine Dream’s *TimeSquare Dream Mixes 2*. The instrumental tune is wrought with a sweeping melody that is angelic, classical, new age-driven, and jazzy.

“Some Day” begins with a gallant and peppy piano-driven piece with a few light electronic embellishments and twinkling sounds of percussive beauty that are swishy and tight. The light melody is not particularly complex or dance-driven. The pleasant sound is accomplished with serene atmospheric washes, drum lines, and little nuances of percussive delight that resemble metallic triangles. The music flutters with all the new age character expected within the genre without any deleterious consequences.

“Hot Pot” opens with a light drum beat with percussive swishes, pensive piano, atmospheric washes, and electronic twinkles. The horn-driven electric sound is somewhat reminiscent of an electric guitar. There are also harmonica-like moments that accompany the plethora of sounds. The music is rather uplifting and more complex than other songs on the album. However, the main charm of the melody with sweeping piano moments and upbeat percussive arrangements with electronic embellishments pushes the song into new dimensions that ultimately do not disappoint.

“Couch Potato” begins with a steady atmospheric tone, light acoustic guitar accompaniment, and a few piano notes. The song title implies a laid-back composition, but the result is a more upbeat song with atmospheric washes that are quite symphonic. Moreover, the piano tones are rather jazzy, but the new age genre is properly explored, too. The song ends with the same atmospheric tone at the beginning. The instrumental song incorporates similar elements of the other tracks, but the result is still unique and fresh.

“Galen’s Song” opens with atmospheric washes, spritely piano medleys, and upbeat, yet jazzy percussion. The mix of piano and percussion is joined with electric guitar like sounds mid-way. However, the guitar sounds are not too pronounced or over-bearing. There are classical elements that mix with jazz, new age, and contemporary instrumental to create an awe-inspiring journey of musical bliss whatever it is called.

Galliano Somnavilla's new release, *Welcome To My Side Of The World*, is an outstanding album that brings together the best parts of fusion, electronica, new age, jazz, contemporary instrumental, and classical music genres. The piano, drums, guitars, electronic embellishments, and other quirky sounds are especially intriguing. There seems to be a perfect balance between each musical instrument without any of the instruments overpowering or drowning out other instruments or impeding arrangements. There are contemplative moments, as well as more upbeat melodies indicative of Tangerine Dream or Ronan Hardiman. Yet, Galliano possesses a rare musical ability to create engaging sound worlds that are cohesive and free-flowing at the same time. Anyone with an interest in contemporary instrumental music in the new age, jazz, electronic, and experimental arenas will find harmony and comfort in the music of Galliano Somnavilla.

Artist: Galliano Somnavilla

Album: *Welcome To My Side Of The World*

Review by Matthew Forss

Rating: 5 Stars (out of 5)