

Australian-based pianist, composer, arranger, and producer, Galliano, incorporates a variety of jazz, classical, and new age-inspired songs for the new album reissue, *Rain In My Bathtub*. There are seventeen songs in all that feature relaxing, magical, and serene music that is entirely instrumental. Galliano is joined by David Rosa on bass, Steve Michaelson on drums, and Lance O'Reilly on violin. The almost cinematic connotations are rather strong, as well as intelligent and memorable throughout.

“Bow Fly” begins with a few pensive and soft piano notes that float effortlessly and without fault. There is a relatively steady beat that carries on for a moment or so before the piano notes pick up speed and a little more sound. However, the song is very relaxing and void of vocals. The fluttering piano sounds increase in intensity during the latter half of the song. There are melancholic and highly-filmic undertones overall. Lastly, the piano is not joined by other instruments.

“Rain In My Bathtub” opens with a bright array of sonic sounds elicited from the piano with such ease and fluidity. This song is a little more aggressive mid-song, but the piano is the only instrument showcased throughout. The song is marked by pensive piano notes, as well as a few more upbeat medleys. The song is completely instrumental and void of additional instruments. There is nothing really groundbreaking here, but the song is supposed to be relatively reserved in parts.

“Dawn At Dusk” begins with a few piano chords that are solo, but there are a few instrumental rests that feature a mix of bass, drums, and piano a second or two before each rest. However, the bass, piano, and drums finally come together unhindered by rests to allow a more free-flowing musical experience take hold and never let go. The drums and bass are not particularly overt or extremely unique. Still, the melody is filled in without the result appearing over-the-top.

“(The) Holy Trinity” opens with punchy drums, upbeat piano, heady bass, and earthy string sounds amidst a sunny melody. The violin appears more evident early on, but the piano takes center stage again. A few percussive acrobatics provides a little more texture and substance than on the other songs. The instrumental song is very cheery, fresh, and jazzy without becoming too classical. There is a little European element going on here with contemporary instrumental greatness taking hold.

“Journey Into Life” begins with a few swift piano notes that meld into a punchy bass and drum setting. The breezy piano notes sweetly accompany the mix of drums and bass with ease. The piano notes are a perfect addition to the instrumental rock-like melody. The absence of vocals, guitars, and additional instruments does not diminish the musical impact of the song. In fact, the music is rather enthralling and upbeat.

Galliano’s latest release, a reissue, showcases the musical roots of Australia’s preeminent pianist and songwriter. The galloping melodies, punchy embellishments, incorporation of a few different instruments, and cross-genre compositions make *Rain In My Bathtub* sound very

inviting. The bass, drum, and violin accompaniment works relatively well throughout. There are times when the drums are not too diverse, but it is not really a distraction or a negative. The piano is the real winner here. There are George Winston moments, as well as Tangerine Dream ones, too. The completely instrumental result is another good attribute. There are enough different songs on the album to provide a satisfactory listening experience. This is ideal for instrumental, jazz, new age, and piano fans all around the world.

Artist: Galliano Somnavilla (Galliano and 'The Word')

Album: *Rain In My Bathtub*

Review by Matthew Forss

Rating: 4.5 Stars (out of 5)