**Planet Passion** by Ancient Future (Remastered 30th Anniversary Edition)


Flirtation
1. Simsimay Panima (6:05)
2. Forest Frolic (4:29)

Courtship
3. I Met Her in the Medowe, a (1:19)
4. I Met Her in the Medowe, b (4:12)
5. Ocean of Love (5:26)

Sacred Eros
6. Ochun (3:32)
7. Semara (4:27)

The Wedding
8. Alap (1:48)
9. El Zaffa (4:26)

Seduction
10. Ne Po Pogrebu Bochonochek (5:07)

Longing for the Beloved
11. Socha Socha, a (2:00)
12. Socha Socha, b (8:34)

Total running length: 51:25

Remastered to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the first Ancient Future concert, the seventh Ancient Future recording, “Planet Passion,” features 19 top masters of world music traditions performing music inspired by the mythology of love. Ancient Future is a large musical family including Matthew Montfort (producer, bandleader, scalloped fretboard guitar, electric guitar, flamenco guitar, bass, gangsa), Irina Mikhailova (Eastern European vocals), Emam (North Indian tabla), Moses Sedler (cello), Liu Qi-Chao (Chinese flute), Antoine Lammam (Arabic tabla), Ian Herman (South African drum set), Ustad Habib Khan (North Indian sitar), Georges Lammam (Arabic violin), Patti Weiss (violin), Manose Singh (Nepalese flutes), C.K. Ladzekpo (West African drums), Pedro de Jesus (Afro-Cuban drums, chant), Doug McKeehan (keyboards), Mindia Devi (bansuri), Benjy Wertheimer (North Indian tabla, esraj), Ian Dogole (world percussion), Hadley Louden (bass marimba), and Jim Hurley (violin). From this palette of musicians, “Planet Passion” features a different band on each track, one of which even includes Ancient Future’s original line-up.

BILLBOARD calls the group “trendsetters” for contributing to the emerging genre known as world fusion music, a term coined at the band’s inception for music that blends musical ideas from many different cultures. Ancient Future is the world’s first and longest running band dedicated exclusively to the creation of world fusion music. Their music is an exhilarating fusion of exciting rhythms and sounds from around the globe that combines contemporary jazz and rock with the irresistible rhythms of African, Balinese, Indian, Middle Eastern and South American percussion, the rich harmonies of Europe, and the beautiful melodies of Asia. According to INDIA CURRENTS, Ancient Future “plays with technical brilliance and gypsy-like fire,” and their music “demonstrates the continuing beneficial influence of Indian music upon world culture.” Ancient Future has expanded its musical vision through collaborations with traditional musicians from all over the world who are now an integral part of what is today more than just a band. Ancient Future has grown to become a large chamber ensemble of world music masters with many smaller ensembles within it, enabling Ancient Future to realize its core mission of creating world fusion music. Through cross cultural exchange, Ancient Future has created a musical world without borders.

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Tracking: Reports/charts/reviews to promo@ancient-future.com (email preferred) 888-823-8887 (toll free USA) • 415-459-1892

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P.O. Box 264, Kentfield, CA 94914-0264
Promotional Overview

- Free in-store play CD demos and posters.
- Listening station programming.
- Radio airplay (over 317 CMJ, NPR, PRI and ZMR reporting programs).
- International and regional reviews (see below).
- National ads (Jazziz, The Beat, Dirty Linen).
- Major Internet presence: Google lists over 100,000 music pages on Ancient Future.
- Nine #1 most downloaded songs (source: mp3.com).
- Available for in-store appearances.
- Retail and media promotion.
- Includes world mythology booklet.

Reviews: Retail

“Ancient Future is a Bay Area based group and is one of the originators of the influential music genre called ‘world fusion.’ The term was coined in 1978 to describe the exciting new music the band was then creating. Developing through various incarnations over the years, Ancient Future has now produced what might be their best work yet. The theme of ‘Planet Passion’ is love, from initial flirtation, to courtship, to union and longing again for the beloved. Matthew Montfort, the band’s leader and guitarist extraordinaire, put together this winning ensemble and did the artful arrangements. While there are many beautifully performed ethnic instrumentations and voices, from Nepalese to Balinese to Russian, the overall sound is distinctive, inventive and, appropriate enough, seductive. ‘Planet Passion’ is a perfect CD for being marooned for a long time with someone you really, really like.” — Lee Starkey, EAST WEST MAGAZINE

“Ancient Future weren’t the first to merge music from around the world, but they were the ones who coined the term world fusion. They’ve been living that vision for a quarter of a century. Now, after a nine-year silence, they’ve released another powerful reminder of that dream. India has always been at the heart of Ancient Future’s world fusion. Founder and only remaining original member Matthew Montfort plays a special, scalloped fretboard acoustic instrument that lets him get the bends of an Indian sitar. He uses it to weave seductive melodies, and his exchanges with Indian sitarist Habib Khan on “Socha, Socha” are exhilarating. Singer Irina Mikhailova, from Medicine Drum and Lumin is the first vocalist in Ancient Future. Singing in vocealese and her native Kazakh tongue, she is intoxicating. From the gamelan cycles of “Semara” to the exuberance of “Forest Frolic,” Ancient Future is the sound of the global bazaar in ecstasy.” — John Diliberto (host of Echoes), AMAZON.COM

Radio

Best of Echoes Listener Poll Winner. #1 Echoes TOP 20, #1 MP3.com World, #11 ZMR World

“From romantic sitar on ‘Socha Socha’ to light, delicate vocals on ‘Ocean of Love,’ and ranging across multiple continents for musical origins, Ancient Future’s Planet Passion album offers a lot to be enthusiastic about. The band is the longest-performing world fusion group, having formed in 1978, yet they retain their inventiveness in developing new sound and style melds. ‘I Met Her in the Medow’ [is] a mysterious Scottish mandora melody from 1615 with the ornaments and note bends of the scolloped fretboard guitar, an instrument combining aspects of the South Indian vina with the steel string guitar. Again, it’s an elegant success. ‘Ne Po Pogrebu Bochorocheck’ is about a young couple’s first night together. It features vocalists by artist Irina Mikhailova, which combine effectively, if almost eerily, with the band’s Eastern sound. Meanwhile, ‘El Zaffa’ brings in the Arabic influence of a lively wedding march, and becomes another of Ancient Future’s excellent adaptations. ‘Forest Frolic’ is a playful, spritely conjunction of bamboo flute work by two Asian flute virtuosos. Chinese multi-instrumentalist Liu Qi-Chao and Nepali bansuri master Manose Singh join efforts, and the result is truly splendid — joyous and lilting. What a welcome return for Ancient Future. Devotees of the best in world fusion will surely wish to add ‘Planet Passion’ to their collections.” — Murraud Fisher, ALL MUSIC GUIDE

Internet

“Shamelessly beautiful, ‘Planet Passion’ is easily the pinnacle of this group’s long career.” — Bob Tarte, THE BEAT

“‘Ancient Future weren’t the first to merge music from around the world, but they were the ones who coined the term world fusion. They’ve been living that vision for a quarter of a century. Now, after a nine-year silence, they’ve released another powerful reminder of that dream. India has always been at the heart of Ancient Future’s world fusion. Founder and only remaining original member Matthew Montfort plays a special, scalloped fretboard acoustic instrument that lets him get the bends of an Indian sitar. He uses it to weave seductive melodies, and his exchanges with Indian sitarist Habib Khan on “Socha, Socha” are exhilarating. Singer Irina Mikhailova, from Medicine Drum and Lumin is the first vocalist in Ancient Future. Singing in vocealese and her native Kazakh tongue, she is intoxicating. From the gamelan cycles of “Semara” to the exuberance of “Forest Frolic,” Ancient Future is the sound of the global bazaar in ecstasy.” — John Diliberto (host of Echoes), AMAZON.COM

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World Traditions and World Fusion

Ethnomusicologist Dr. Robert Brown of the Center for World Music coined the term world music to describe the traditional music of the world. His student, Ancient Future leader Matthew Montfort, coined the term world fusion music in the late ’70s to distinguish his band’s new music while honoring the traditions it is based on. In Montfort’s book, “Ancient Traditions — Future Possibilities: Rhythmic Training Through the Traditions of Africa, Bali and India,” he defines world fusion as “music that combines ideas from many of the earth’s traditions.” While musicians have been exchanging knowledge across national boundaries as long as there has been contact between cultures, Ancient Future is at the forefront of a contemporary movement to create cross-cultural music showing how people from different cultures can learn from each other.

World fusion music is a process that transcends genre. The initial stage of the process often occurs amidst much excitement as musicians from different cultures meet for the first time, search for common ground, and explore differences. That can lead to the second stage: musicians studying the traditions of cultures foreign to them to gain knowledge and inspiration. A third stage results when master musicians from different cultures who have developed a deep understanding of each other’s traditions collaborate.

‘Planet Passion’ features both third stage world fusion and music based firmly on the traditions of the master musicians involved.

Planet Passion Track List

Report to CMJ New World, ZMR World


2. Forest Frolic 4:29 (Montfort). [PLAY AUDIO]
   Fusion elements: Chinese, Greek, Balinese, and Indian. Features Liu Qi-Chao (Chinese flute) and Manose Singh (bansuri).

   Tradition: Scottish lute melody from 1615. Features Matthew Montfort on the scalloped fretboard guitar, an instrument combining aspects of the South Indian vina with the steel string guitar.

   Fusion elements: Modal jazz, Indian (Rag Kafi), African, Vietnamese, and Slavic influences. Features Matthew Montfort (electric guitars), Irina Mikhailova (vocals), and C.K. Ladzekpo (Yoruba drummer).

   Tradition: Afro-Cuban. Features Santeria priest Pedro de Jesus on a chant for the goddess of love.

7. Semara 4:27 (Montfort). [PLAY AUDIO]
   Tradition: Balinese gamelan. Features instruments and rhythms of the Gamelan Semar Pegulingan and performances by the original 1978 line-up of Ancient Future.

   Tradition: Indian alap. Features Matthew Montfort on scalloped fretboard guitar and Patti Weiss on violin.

   Tradition: Egyptian wedding procession rhythm (elzaffa). Features Palestinian musicians Antoine Lammam (percussion) and Georges Lammam (violin) and Jewish music specialist Moses Sedler (cello).

    Tradition: Russian folk song. Features Irina Mikhailova (vocals) and Matthew Montfort (guitars).

Artists available for interviews, station ID’s, live radio/TV performances around tour dates, and custom audio explanations of tracks. Contact Ancient-Future.Com Records: promo@ancient-future.com • 888-823-8887 (toll free USA) • 415-459-1892