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Chris Spector

7/9/2014



ANCIENT FUTURE/Yearning for the Wind

ANCIENT FUTURE.COM

ANCIENT FUTURE/Yearning for the Wind: Reacting to the changing times, this new one by Matthew Montfort is a cd single with a video component. A simple set of guitar and tabla, this track simply sounds like Sedona. The chops and the smarts are there, but when you get something this tasty, you'd like to explore more than a track. Of course, that's what going on line is for these days. Check it out.

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AGUL DE MAR
SHERIE JULIANNE/10 Degrees South: There's something about Brazilian jazz that seems to free the souls of women of a certain age these days and it's a nice trend. Vocalist Julianne teamed up with Marcos Silva and started her own label to follow the passion. Enlisting a bunch of Bay area Jazzbos with the smarts to compliment her vision, what we have as a result is an album that sounds delightfully like summer any time of the year no matter what your climate. This is a sweet palette cleanser that really rejuvenates the taste buds. Check it out.

ANCIENT FUTURE.COM
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Exposé
Peter Thelen

7/24/2014



Ancient Future — Yearning for the Wind

(Ancient Future Records AF-20, 2014, DL / Enhanced AV CD)
by Peter Thelen, Published 2014-07-24

World fusion ensemble Ancient Future, led by guitarist Matthew Montfort, has been a going concern since the late 70s, although nobody could accuse them of flooding the market with product. From their first LP release in 1980 until today, they have only released seven full length releases. Since their previous release Planet Passion in 2001, they have chosen to make new material available to supporters by subscription only, via A.F.A.R. (the Archive of Future Ancient Recordings), an archive of alternate takes, live concerts, radio performances and new studio recordings as they are created. Yearning for the Wind, a single extended track based on North Indian raga and set in a nine beat rhythmic cycle, is the group's first commercially available release in over a dozen years, an enhanced CD with audio and video. Featured are Montfort on scalloped fretboard guitar, and master tabla player Vishal Nagar. The piece starts slowly with an acoustic guitar solo that emphasizes the pitch-bending qualities of the scalloped fretboard, later joined by the tabla a couple minutes in, and slowly evolving through numerous sections where the tabla and guitar alternate lead roles. A light rhythm guitar part was overdubbed, so essentially we have a trio of two guitars and tabla for the duration. Adding the visual aspect of the video brings in a whole new dimension to the proceedings, and highlights the intense rhythmic complexity that Nagar brings to the table. The exhaustive liner notes in the booklet explain the details of the piece, section by section. The only minus, perhaps, is that it's all over in about ten minutes - although one can't complain about the quality of what's here. For fans of world fusion music, it doesn't get much better than this.

Filed under: New releases , 2014 releases
Related artist(s): Ancient Future

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Prepared Guitar Blog

Miguel Copón

8/13/2014

Matthew Montfort

Guitarist Matthew Montfort of the world music group Ancient Future was inspired to create this modern raga based on the music of Jimi Hendrix after seeing a photo of Jimi Hendrix in the front row of an Indian music concert, in awe of the music. There is a version of it on Montfort's solo CD, 'Seven Serenades for Scalloped Fretboard Guitar.' Matthew Montfort performed this version of "Purple Raga" live at Ancient Future's 30th Anniversary Concert on a Godin Glissentar, an 11 string fretless guitar endorsed by Montfort. This first recording of Montfort performing on the Glissentar is available to subscribers to the Archive of Future Ancient Recordings: <http://www.ancient-future.com/afar.html>. The video and a lesson on applying the rules of raga to the music of Jimi Hendrix are also available on GuitarPlayer.Com. Matthew Montfort teaches online via Skype and other services: <http://www.ancient-future.com/skype.html>.

YouTube Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oezJHjKHX78>

'Yearning for the Wind' is Ancient Future's first audio/video release in the band's 35 year history. It is a poignant piece based on Rag Kalyan, an evening raga that corresponds to the Lydian mode. A duet between scalloped fretboard guitar pioneer Matthew Montfort and Indian tabla virtuoso Vishal Nagar, who is considered one of the most gifted tabla players of his generation, 'Yearning for the Wind' is set in matta tal, a nine beat rhythmic cycle.

Vimeo Video

<http://vimeo.com/92434920>

Matthew Montfort is the leader of the world fusion music ensemble Ancient Future. An award-winning guitarist (Louis Armstrong Jazz Award, Colorado Outstanding Young Guitarist Award), he is a pioneer of the scalloped fretboard guitar (an instrument combining qualities of the South Indian vina and the steel string guitar). Montfort spent three months in intensive study with vina master K.S. Subramanian in order to fully apply the South Indian gamaka (note-bending) techniques to the guitar. In August 2012 he was added to the 100 Greatest Acoustic Guitarists list at DigitalDreamDoor.com, joining luminaries such as Michael Hedges, Leo Kottke, Chet Atkins, John Fahey, Adriari Legg, Merle Travis, John Renbourn, Tommy Emmanuel, Doc Watson, Pierre Bensusan, Toni Rice, Alex De Grassi, Stefan Grossman, Artie Traum, Joni Mitchell, and Peppino D'Agostino. He is also known for his work on Glissentar 11 string fretless guitar, electric guitar, flamenco guitar, bass guitar, sitar, charango, mandolin, and gamelan, and as Ancient Future's main composer.

Photo of Montfort's Guitar by Teja Gerken

Read full article online:

<http://preparedguitar.blogspot.com/2014/08/matthew-montfort.html>



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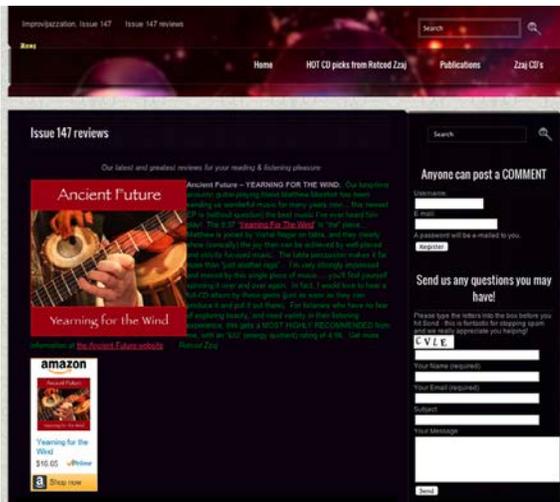
9/15/2014



Ancient Future – YEARNING FOR THE WIND

Our latest and greatest reviews for your reading & listening pleasure

Ancient Future – YEARNING FOR THE WIND: Our long-time acoustic guitar-playing friend Matthew Montfort has been sending us wonderful music for many years now... this newest EP is (without question) the best music I've ever heard him play! The 9:37 "Yearning For The Wind" is "the" piece... Matthew is joined by Vishal Nagar on tabla, and they clearly show (sonically) the joy than can be achieved by well-placed and strictly focused music. The tabla percussion makes it far more than "just another raga"... I'm very strongly impressed and moved by this single piece of music.... you'll find yourself spinning it over and over again. In fact, I would love to hear a full-CD album by these gents (just as soon as they can produce it and put it out there). For listeners who have no fear of exploring beauty, and need variety in their listening experience, this gets a **MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** from me, with an "EQ" (energy quotient) rating of 4.98. Get more information at the Ancient Future website. Rotcod Zzaj



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ProgressorR: Uzbekistan Progressive Rock

Olav Martin Bjørnsen

10/22/2014

Ancient Future "Yearning for the Wind" *****+

Ancient Future - 2013 - "Yearning for the Wind"

(9:37 EP/CD-R, 'Ancient Future')

*****+

The US based project ANCIENT FUTURE has been around in various constellations for more than 30 years. They describe themselves as "the world's first and longest running band dedicated exclusively to the mission of creating world fusion music", and have sold more than 150.000 albums. "Yearning for the Wind" is an enhanced CD single, released in early 2014. I see the creators describe this composition as one inspired by raga, and while I don't know enough about that style of music to verify that, there is a strong exotic feel to this creation. Opening with a careful acoustic guitar motif, of the kind where the resonances from the plucked notes form the melody just as much as the notes themselves, the composition slowly unfolds as the tablas are brought in, the guitar then retreats as the tablas are given a dominant role for a run, and then the pace intensifies as the guitar shifts from resonating notes to a firmer and more energetic mode of delivery, combining with the tablas to reach an intense crescendo, followed by a brief, tranquil guitars only end sequence. The kind of mood that may be that of a warm summer day with sweltering heat ebbing into a brief silence before the wind picks up and a storm comes running in, ending with the silence following in the aftermath. An intriguing creation, proving yet again that a sparse arrangement of acoustic guitar and tabla alone can be used to craft delightful music in the right hands. The enhanced bit of this production covers a high quality video footage from the recording of this song, where the main focus appears to be on showcasing the technique used by guitarist Matthew Montfort and percussionist Vishal Nagar. A video that should be a treat to watch by those with an interest in playing the acoustic guitar and tabla respectively. All in all a worthwhile piece that arguably belongs inside the new age department of the world fusion universe, with skilled performers showcasing just how intriguing material of this kind can be when the composer and instrumentalists hold a high quality.

Olav M Bjørnsen: October 22, 2014

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[Ancient Future](#)



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Olav M Bjørnsen: October 22, 2014

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Palo Alto Daily News

Paul Freeman

12/17/2014

A wide selection of albums to consider

A wide selection of albums to consider

By Paul Freeman For The Daily News

POSTED: 12/17/2014 06:23:52 PM PST

- Ancient Future -- "Yearning for the Wind"

This is the first audio/video release for Ancient Future. You might have to experience the enhanced CD single multiple times before fully appreciating the visual, because the music itself will make you close your eyes, sigh and travel cosmically. Based on an Indian raga, the wistful composition wends its way along a peaceful path. Matthew Monfort subtly coaxes remarkably flowing lines from his scalloped fretboard guitar. And Indian tabla virtuoso Vishal Nagar intuitively places incredibly intricate rhythmic patterns into the piece. Ancient Future has been making wonderful world fusion music for three decades. The possibilities remain infinite.

www.ancient-future.com



A wide selection of albums to consider
By Paul Freeman For The Daily News

- Ken Henshaws Trio -- "Keepin' It Going"
- Neil Diamond -- "Hollywood Road"
- Ash Kicker -- "Smoking Occasion Changes"
- Denny Bethune and Catherine Seidel -- "Calling You"
- Ancient Future -- "Yearning for the Wind"

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