

MUSIC

MIMI NOVIC – BEYOND THE HORIZONS

written by *Beach Sloth* April 5, 2021



A sense of unlimited possibility takes shape on Mimi Novic's otherworldly, dream worldly spirit of "Beyond The Horizons". Everything here is treated with the utmost of reverence for the true core of the sound rests with her guidance. Within the lyrics spoken softly and confidently, a whole exploration of the psyche takes place. The real and the imagined become one for there is a meditation on what it means to be alive, to be of truly this moment. Stylistically she incorporates a wide slew of different genres from across the world and does so in subtle shades, making sure that each piece effortlessly flows off the last.

With a discography that includes illusions to La Monte Young's work, it is unsurprising that the scope of this particular outing transcends the ordinary to become something quite marvelous. The piano work incorporates a mixture of George Winston's pastoral playing, for there is a lightness there, a nimbleness that works perfectly to punctuate the power of her words. Usage of the unexpected array of instruments, a mbira in a few instances, heightens the sense of togetherness that the album celebrates. Strings bring out a bit of Vicki Richards' work with black tape for a blue girl, alongside a hint of Godspeed You! Black Emperor's newer, more

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The spaciousness of “Do Not Be Afraid To Live” has a vista-like loveliness to it, for the patient persistence of the keys alongside lush otherworldly strings further adds to the headiness of the experience. A song of pure joy makes “Children of Tomorrow” a true delight. Incorporation of found sound and subtle sing-songs in the distance lends the piece a sense of community, a sense that guides so many in this very moment.

Sophisticated chords blend together on the kaleidoscopic whirlwind of “Secret Whispers” where elements of Keith Jarrett’s playing filter into the fray. Stately with its grandeur comes the romantic swoon of “Winds of Change”. Stripped down to its very essence “Teardrops” explores such intimacy, with every gesture reverberating.

Poise adds to the delicacy of “Heavenly” as there a turning point within the narrative, one that feels well-earned. The swirls of “Kaleidoscope” features bright brilliant bursts of color that offer such vividness.

“Voyage” pulls back on that maximalism for a stripped-down essence. On “Ink Of Destiny” there is a three dimensional quality to the way that the song keeps on shifting perspective, as there is a comforting warmth. Spry work propels the whole of “Where Angels Bathe” forward with such powerful tones. A clever summary of all that came before it brings the album to a close with “Strength of Courage”.

“Beyond The Horizons” reveals Mimi Novic to possess a deep understanding of the human condition as well as a thoughtful explorer of sound itself.



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|----|--------------------------|------|
| 1 | Do Not Be Afraid To Live | 7:01 |
| 2 | Children of Tomorrow | 5:43 |
| 3 | Secret Whispers | 2:55 |
| 4 | Winds of Change | 4:57 |
| 5 | Teardrops | 3:48 |
| 6 | Heavenly | 3:20 |
| 7 | Kaleidoscope | 5:07 |
| 8 | Voyage | 3:38 |
| 9 | Ink Of Destiny | 3:49 |
| 10 | Where Angels Bathe | 3:01 |

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