

Dreaming the Timeless Dream (a Tribute to Edgar Froese)

By

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Written by

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Many in recent years have manifested tributes to the late great *Edgar Froese*; his influence on electronic musicians worldwide will never fade, and on this latest offering by **Scott Lawlor**, you will probably find one of the most comprehensive albums and finest tributes thus far, this is not just an album of superb music this is a veritable journey of dreams past and present.

The opening piece is a delight to listen to and called **Dreaming the Timeless Dream (Part 1)** the soft almost heaven kissed organ creates a musical dimension to cast yourself adrift to and just enjoy, this is that moment when you can totally agree with the title, and allow the senses to meld with the timeless energies created by the artist.

I listen to this next piece and really enjoyed its bright crisp tones, **White Moon** is a glorious offering of classic electronic music genius with a sensitive percussive beat, one that has a musical narrative that is as bright as the moon itself, the performance here is energetic, but in a distinctly crafted way, and is one of those pieces that you will find yourself constantly coming back to time and time again.

We now found ourselves in another universe completely as we reach one of several long form compositions off the release, this is called **Desert Cloudburst**; this is one of the finest works of art by Lawlor I have heard for some time. There is a hovering anticipation here that is so compelling, there are few artist's that can honestly say they have captured the energy of the waste land of a desert so well, but Lawlor now must be named as one of them.

This is one of those tracks that are utterly timeless, but at all times does what it says on the can, for me this is ambient music at its very best.

Twilight in the Canyons is next up, this lush and smooth musical narrative literally picks up on where the preceding track left off, however here we have a more pronounced sense of ambience, there is a deeper more palpable manifestation of depth in this most substantial of pieces, the floating synths are perfection, but added to that the instrumental artistic nuances created by Lawlor on his keyboards, seems to bring into this musical realm an almost anthem like energy to the proceedings. In my view the cleverness of this piece is further enhanced, by the mixture of what is an intense feeling of ambience with the true creation of a dramatic flair as well.

As you expect from its title, **The Inevitable Descent into Entropy**, has a distinct sense of darkness about it, one that is extremely enticing, the ethereal vocalisations are also otherworldly, but the skill of the artist here to literally take us on a slow and inevitable incline towards this entropic destiny, is quite stunning to listen to and be a part of.

I always adore the opportunity to review a **Scott Lawlor** album, there is always so much to dive in deep with, on this next arrangement that theme continues. **Dreaming the Timeless Dream (Part 2)** is the fulcrum of the album, one so beautifully composed and masterfully performed; you really cannot help but be moved by it. There is a sense of an end and a musical interpretation for me, of from that descent and acceptance, a new beginning is slowly forming, indeed, Lawlor has achieved his goal as we continue to dream the timeless dream.

Midnight in Berlin is our next track; its familiar EM style will be adored by many who loved *Tangerine Dream* and other such ground breaking electronic music artists. There is a very clever sense of movement built into this composition that I respect, and from the structure of the performance one could easily draw a musical portrayal of the subject matter with great ease.

We now find ourselves deep within the weave of the album, and arrive now at a true long form opus entitled **Birth of Fluidic Space**. For all fellow *Star Trek fans*, this is a title that you will be most familiar with, as it is the birth place and home of *species 8472*, but here in this inner dimension, between and betwixt

the actual space time continuum itself, we are witness to the manifestation to a whole new musical reality of sorts, and this vast work of art at well over an hour long, will explore the very essence of our location with feelings of awe, trepidation, suspense, dramatic ambience and a slow sense of onward floating movement.

Lawlor's genius comes to the front here with this utter masterpiece, and I must add, worked perfectly with my current situation. I am alone at home, a distant storm is about to hit, it's getting darker by the minute, and this constant hovering sense of anticipation and ambience combined in music is simply perfect for the moment.

Invisible Borders Within Dark Dreams is our opportunity to hear the artist create something of a minimalistic composition on piano to begin with. I have heard Lawlor on piano on a few occasions now and he never ceases to impress me with his crafted and thoughtful approach, the synths soon add to that ambience after a couple of minutes, into this half an hour plus creation.

I have often thought that Lawlor's works would be an painters delight to turn into modern art creations, this piece especially so, the narrative here is almost deceptive in its build and anticipation, the flute styled tones take us by the hand and lead us into a world of shade and atmospheric tendencies, one so far removed from any reality we know. The energy and intensity of the track manifests itself into something more at the 9 minute mark, as a pulsating and rhythmic electronic vibration is created, one that changes it's musical appearance again in and around the 18 minute marker with a somewhat sharper tone, then once more flows into an almost Berlin school style toward the end and at the tracks conclusion.

Our penultimate offering is the very classy **Winter's Horizon on Rubicon Peak**; this is a track to literally bury yourself within, one that really reminded me at times of Eno in his early years, with such seminal works as *Lizard Point* or *The Lost Day*. The performance on synths here is nothing less than sublimely magical, and the artist's true creative abilities of being able to paint with sound and tone can be absolutely saluted when arriving at this juncture.

The last and final destination is not only the conclusion of the album, but the circle of musical life we have come to know as **Dreaming the Timeless Dream**

(Part 3). This finality brings with it one of the most emotive pieces off the release, but one that in doing so raises the eternal question of life, the universe and everything, as no matter what we endure, we continue to dream the endless dream, a stunningly beautiful end, a track from the far reaches of the galaxy, and a perfect conclusion to what must be Lawlor's most pivotal and most influential album thus far.

Dreaming the Timeless Dream (a Tribute to Edgar Froese) is the release I believe Lawlor hoped it would be, his best work so far with ease. This is a vast collection of musical art that will become a timeless electronic and ambient benchmark for all to follow. Each and every composition on this release is accessible and completely listenable; at times it is very easy to get completely lost within its genius. If you're a fan of mood filled and creative electronic and ambient music, this is an album that you must have in your collection at all costs.