

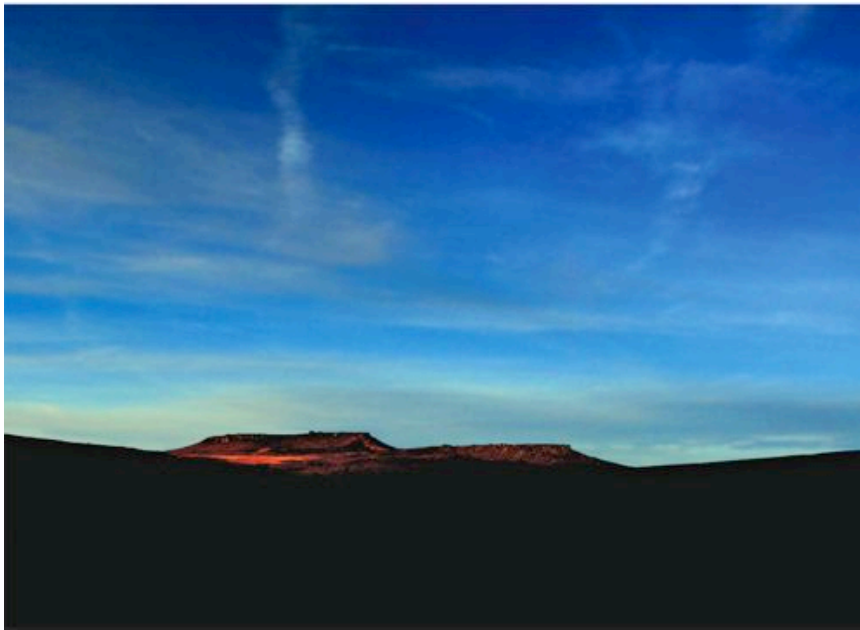
CATHEDRAL OF DREAMS Nick Fletcher

Solo Guitar Works Volume 1, Iberian Fantasy for Guitar and Orchestra (Bainbridge / Fletcher)

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Nick Fletcher Cathedral of Dreams



Solo Guitar Works Volume 1
Iberian Fantasy for Guitar and Orchestra (Bainbridge/Fletcher)

open sky



We would like to introduce you to the music of Nick Fletcher with this, our latest release on Open Sky Records. Nick is an incredibly talented guitarist, improviser and composer of music for solo guitar and we are thrilled to have this release included in the Open Sky / Voiceprint catalogue. As well as being a first cd release of Nick's own solo guitar compositions, the album will be of huge interest to fans of IONA as it features Nick playing 'Iberian Fantasy', a 24 minute long Guitar Concerto co-written and orchestrated by IONA's Dave Bainbridge and Nick himself. Those of you who bought our 'Songs for Luca 2' double cd release will already have heard Nick's beautiful playing on two tracks on that album - 'Silver Moon' and 'Red Sun'.

The CD

This recording is a first volume of contemporary Classical Guitar music, written, improvised, and performed by Nick. The music spans a wide range of influences from the Baroque era to Iberian, Argentine and Brazilian dance forms. Also rhythms from Eastern Europe and traditional music from the Hebridean Isles. The CD also features 'Iberian Fantasy' a four movement suite for Guitar and Orchestra written in collaboration with Dave Bainbridge.



Background

Born in Sheffield (UK) in 1960, Nick started to play the Guitar at the age of 12. By 1976 after being inspired by guitarists such as Steve Hackett, Jan Akkerman and Steve Howe, Nick took up playing the Classical Guitar and after watching Christopher Nupen's Documentary about the legendary Classical Guitarist Andres Segovia, Nick started to become more serious about the instrument.



Nick subsequently studied the Classical Guitar for 3 years with David Taplin at Huddersfield School of Music where he also became interested in the music of guitarists such as Ralph Towner and Bill Connors and started to write some music for the instrument. At this time, around 1980, Nick met Dave Bainbridge who went on to become the founder member of the band 'Iona'. The band Dave and Nick formed together became known as 'Plan B', in many ways a kind of prototype for Iona. They also played together in a Jazz fusion type band called 'Staircase'. After these early bands split up Nick started to do many sessions for various companies and artists and formed another fusion band called 'Trivial Pursuit'. By the mid 1990's Nick decided that playing the solo Classical Guitar was to become the main focus of his musical activities.

Nick then recorded three highly acclaimed solo CDs of meditational music on the Classical Guitar for Kingsway Music and recorded an album of Lullabies for Classical Guitar for Dorling Kindersley. Becoming more involved in record production in the mid 1990's, Nick also produced five Celtic music recordings. Nick also started to give many recitals of the Classical Guitar but writing music for the Guitar started to become his consuming passion out of which the CD 'Cathedral of Dreams' was born. At the time of recording both Nick and Dave decided to create an extended orchestral type composition for the Guitar out of joint improvisations recorded in the beautiful acoustic of St Luke's church in the small village of Holton Le Moor, in the heart of rural Lincolnshire. This was to be a bold decision and led to the four movement "Iberian Fantasy" heard on this recording.

Before the recording of this CD Nick and Dave Bainbridge re united in 2007 to record a CD of their arrangements of contemporary hymns by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty called 'Breaking of the Dawn' (on the Kingsway label), which has received rave reviews and the great American Guitarist Phil Keaggy has become an ardent fan of the recording!



Track listing;

1. Brasilia
2. Song of the Orphan
3. Dark Waters
part 1: The Lake
part 2: Tributaries
4. Evensong
5. Cornucopia
6. Veil of Tears
7. A Higher Path (Fantasia No. 2)
8. Sirocco
9. Cathedral of Dreams
10. Visage
11. Evesham Vale
Iberian Fantasy for Guitar and Orchestra
12. Duende
13. Misterioso
14. Recuerdos
15. Appassionata

Album Credits;

Classical Guitar: Nick Fletcher
Keyboards: Dave Bainbridge
Flute: Andrea Alonso
Timpani & Cymbals: Gabriel Alonso
Recorded 29th-31st October 2007 St Luke's, Holton Le Moor,
Lincolnshire, UK
Additional recording, editing and mixing at Open Sky Studio,
Lincolnshire between December 2007 - October 2008
Recording engineer & digital editing: Dave Bainbridge
Producer: Dave Bainbridge
Co-Producer: Nick Fletcher
Mastering: Nigel Palmer/Lowland Masters
Artwork: Tim Martindale

Publishing

Nick's solo guitar pieces are published by the eminent Canadian Classical Guitar publisher 'Productions d'oz' (www.productionsdoz.com). He has, at present, two volumes of Guitar music published with more to follow. Nick has now written over 50 compositions for the Classical Guitar and currently divides his time between teaching guitar, performing solo recitals of music from the Classical repertoire mixed with his own compositions, and writing more music for the guitar.

Nick will be performing at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday 16th May at 7pm. Tickets £7 (£4 conc).

Contact: Tel 0114 264 9051 Email: nguitarman@talktalk.net

For more info on Nick, visit:

www.myspace.com/nickfletcher guitarist

for more info on Dave, visit:

www.myspace.com/davebainbridgeuk

Cathedral of Dreams and all other Open Sky records releases are available from the Iona website secure store

www.drshosting.co.uk/iona/

Worldwide distribution by Voiceprint

www.voiceprint.co.uk

Photos on page 1 and photo of Dave on page 2 taken during the album recording sessions at St Luke's, Holton Le Moor, Lincolnshire