

Darlene Koldenhoven

The Grand Piano Spa



Well known New Age songstress **Darlene Koldenhoven** is a woman of many talents. Her voice is a passion infused instrument that has entertained and comforted all for these many years. She has always been a gifted songwriter and now another one of her wonderful skills emerges, that of a talented pianist. I am familiar with her vocal albums, but this completely instrumental album is quite remarkable. On her latest, **The Grand Piano Spa**, she offers up nine nuanced tunes of timeless artistry. If ever there was a time to find the quiet place, to light the candles, and to escape into a personal day of fantasy, that time is now. This lyrical collection of wistful solo piano melodies is the perfect accompaniment.

White, pink, or blue? Imagine your favorite color of draping florets as they hang from your imaginary tree. Darlene's opening song, **Wisteria** hangs in the air and perfumes your quiet time with the delicate fragrance of nature's sweetest sounds. Bright green leaves punctuate every moment with earthy delight. The music cascades gently, intertwining with your blissful meditations.

**Into the Light** has a classical introduction, but smoothly settles into a contemporary theme. It gently radiates an invisible warmth. It is the sunset light, the gold and lavender of a westerly conversion. The sun will now rest, ready for another new day and the night will come soon. Our spirit travels with it.

If ever there was song written for me, it is **Quiet Read**. Give me a sunny window, a clear sky, and a good book to make my day. A real book of paper and ink. A book that takes me away from my world and into another. Darlene's enchanting song gives color and texture to the adventure that unfolds before me. I am the temporary time traveler that revels in the smell and feel of the paper, the weight in my hands, and the story of heroes not only of long ago, but also of the future.

**Delphi's Dream** opens with a deep, resonating note. Delphi, the once thought of center of the world, is a place where dreams and good wishes come to be born. Darlene's song flows fluidly in a bottomless well of great memories and positive energy. The piece is refined with a delightful mutability that settles in the spirit. This was one of my many favorites on *The Grand Piano Spa*.

**Reverie** is another much listened to piece on the recording. It is a tender ballad that offers a simple, bucolic beauty. There is a nostalgic glow over those embers of that warm, toasty fire. The memories unwind like a vignette, a theater of the mind in which every scene is a precious welcomed moment. Like every piece on this album, it is an invitation to relax, refresh, and restore the spirit.

Like a rhythmic heartbeat, the notes of the song **Soliloquy** regulate life with a tempo not soon forgotten. Every note is a melodic word. And every word is part of the testament to the life of that special someone. Every smile, every touch, and every secret is voiced in the music and recorded in the heart. This is a declaration of love.

The last song is called **Simple Life**. It is something that we think of today as quite elusive. It is the goal of every soul that has lost, floundered, and fallen. It is the peace of mind we pray for each and every night. And it is the hope for our children. Koldenhoven personifies that feeling in her soul stirring tune. Some may need more, but for many of us, it is all we ask.

When you play Darlene Koldenhoven's album, you just can't be where you are. You will be transported far and away in your dreams. The earth may turn a little slower. You may even see the stars come out. These nine tunes make it worth the time. Darlene Koldenhoven is a Grammy Award winning performer with multiple nominations. Her music has been heard throughout the world on land and satellite radio stations and she has performed an immeasurable number of times on live television, including *Yanni's Live at the Acropolis*. Her music is used in healing and meditative applications and therapy. Highly listenable. – R J Lannan, Artisan Music Reviews

Renowned New Age vocalist Darlene Koldenhoven uses the voice of the piano to offer you a little time for yourself for renewing, refreshing, and healing as she presents her new album, *The Grand Piano Spa*. It is the compassionate sound track for a new beginning, a new day. A new you.

- R J Lannan, Artisan Music Reviews

