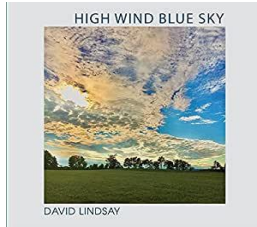


David Lindsay

High Wind Blue Sky



I have to admit, it was a bleak, rainy day when I listened to guitarist David Lindsay's newest album **High Wind Blue Sky**. Thankfully, it worked its magic. High Wind Blue Sky is ten contemporary instrumental tunes that more than brighten up your day. They possess an obvious virtue, a strength so to speak in the music, a hidden power. Love, maybe faith, but it is there. David Lindsay has not released a new album for quite a while, but you can never tell by his latest recording that he ever left the instrumental scene. The music runs a fairly long gamut emotionally; friendliness, reverence, happiness, well, you get the idea. And all of it is strong in structure, relevant, and timeless in the genre.

The album opens with the title tune **High Wind Blue Sky**. David offers a lofty, drifting melody free of cares and concerns. Nothing but the sun, the breeze and the weightless peace of mind. Since it set the tone for the album, I thought it would be longer, but the journey was short and oh so promising.

The next cut is called **Agnes**. It is the musical stuff that daydreams are made of. Agnes has a little sass and a little jazz courtesy of Tom Eaton's piano and Jeff Haynes percussion. The upbeat melody is one of movement, a lighthearted course with a good deal of determination.

Birds has some obvious classical notes in it, but this flight of fancy is a sparrow in a storm when it comes to tone and temperament. This isn't a high flying avian adventure. To me it is a bird with a broken wing trying to fly against the wind. It is an against all odds story. There is a characteristic sadness to this tune. But it is a beautiful sadness as Lindsay tells the story using tender fretwork. I can't reveal the end. That's for the listener to decide.

Bright guitar work is featured on the song **For Margot**, a light, emotional tune with a lot of time for reflection in the melody. Just a little glimpse or a snapshot of life. It is the kind of song that says I remember when and the smiles and the tugging of heartstrings begins. A very sweet, modern day carol.

An echoing voice, ominous strings, and David's fervent melody combines to make a thoughtful ballad called **Sea Swells**. The imagined rolling waves create the tempo to this scenario of leaden skies, harsh winds, and frothy whitecaps that are as rhythmic as they are incessant. The whole song seems to produce a yearning, but for what? Or were?"

The final cut, **Another Time Comes** is a folksy, warm ballad. It almost feels like the kind of music you could imagine when the wanderer comes back home to hearth and kin. It suggests a sense of wellbeing. Jeff Oster's flugelhorn heralds the return in noble fashion as David's song wraps you in a familial embrace.

I liked all of the songs on High Wind Blue Sky for many reasons. First, the album put me in mind of treasured instrumentals that became the foundation of contemporary music in the 80s. Second, there are some thought provoking, easy to listen songs that perpetuate daydreaming in a very good manner. And finally, when you listen closely, you can sense underlying currents of deep faith in the album. So family, faith, and love, the sacred trine that is the fundamental foundation of life are in there. Oh, and once the album finished, the sun shone brightly once again. Highly Listenable. - R J Lannan, Artisan Music Reviews

<https://youtu.be/0Vs4qquPJTQ>