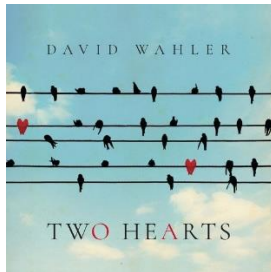


David Wahler
Two Hearts



When two hearts meet, it is the beginning of a new day. When two hearts part, it is the end of the world. Keyboardist **David Wahler** captures both experiences and everything in between on his latest album, **Two Hearts**. David's eleven-track undertaking is full of emotionally light, ambient songs of love discovered and love lost with an ear to ardor and much warmth.

Wahler opens with a hopeful song titled **Always** and that is just what we want and expect from love. We want fairytale love that lives happily ever after. It is fate or fortune that makes it so. There are moderate rhythms on this album, but there is an emotional subtlety to the music as provided by this first tune.

Just imagine walking hand in hand across the Pont d'Avignon as the rain falls over the City of Light. The streetlights glimmer in the distance and it does not matter if you get wet down to the soul. The love you have is an impenetrable shield of thoughts and feelings. The tune **Paris Rain** is a soundscape for that experience. If you listen closely, you can just about hear two heartbeats synchronized by an invisible force that cannot be denied.

Love Lost has a silent sadness to it and of course, love lost is a heartbreaking event. Wahler's melody has little sonic will o' the wisps, glistening notes, and a sorrowful refrain. It possesses an ethereal tone in its grief as if heaven is weeping as much as the heart that is breaking. One of the best on the album for me.

You and Me is a slow moving waltz around a very big room, perhaps as big as the planet. This music is so sublime I could almost imagine the stars spinning in the universe trying to catch up. The music is almost bell like and echoingly soft. The guitar resonates with a gentle tug at the heartstrings as two lovers, oblivious to the world around them, dance like there is no tomorrow.

The title track **Two Hearts** is an emotionally rich piano arrangement in two-heart harmony. Again, Wahler, whether intentional or not, offers up a pas de deux of agonizing beauty. There are soft voices, elegant piano notes, and a warm rhythm that combines for the best of the best on the recording. This truly is a lover's theme.

Is there doubt? Is there betrayal? There is an air of mystery to the music. Are there dark alleys and late night rendezvous? Dynamic guitar and cooing voices combine on the tune **Confession**. There is a hint of trepidation in this song. All you can do is pray for forgiveness.

Then She Went to Sleep is the grand finale. This piano tune is another weightless musical spiral of David's talent as a composer. The music drifts along tranquilly, as if the sleeping world is now made out of stardust and pale, distant light. You hope that the dreams are about you.

David Wahler knew that music would be his vocation at an early age. What's different about most of David's music is the underlying, yet unmistakable spirituality that springs forth

whenever he touches the piano keys. Wahler isn't what I would label prolific in the number of releases he has made, but every single one of them has been notable for their innate beauty and polished refinements. Two Hearts, his latest offering, is definitive. – R J Lannan, Artisan Music Reviews