

Eric Allaman

What We Whispered



American Composer **Eric Allaman**'s music pervades every type of media. Whether it be film, television, or the theater, you may be familiar with Allaman's music and not know it. With forty-five films and over 600 TV episodes in his repertoire, his music is always playing somewhere. He is a serious composer that is deep into his art. His new release **What We Whispered** is a dozen tracks of cinematically influenced contemporary themes that are structurally elaborate and rich in emotion. Each track is more complex than the next. They hold your attention with bold execution and middle to low register piano phrasing.

The album opens with the tune **Rendezvous**. The darkly mysterious sonata is veiled in rain drenched streets, dim lamplight, and a bridge that cannot be crossed. Such are the intricacies of Allaman's story in this furtive musical background for a film noir. All you need to complete the scenario are echoing footsteps.

**Wenn Du Dran Glaubst** or *If You Believe in It* is a waltz created for an old world fantasy. Allaman's music fairly swirls as the dancers spin around the room, so much so that they are lost in time and tempo. It is only when the music stops do the lovers realize they are back at the beginning. Next is the title tune, **What We Whispered**. Tender at times and thrilling at others, the music builds into a melodramatic storyline with the questions are still unanswered. Eric's conceptual melody lends itself to confusion and doubt. The refrain is strongest in the middle where turmoil sets in. The finish is as satisfying as the intro as it comes full circle.

**The Center Cannot Hold** is a somber march and a turning point for the hero in this story. Eric's serious score suggests that not all is lost and what we do at this time will determine our fate. This is the culmination of every decision ever made at a crossroads. Time to choose. With a quarter moon in the heavens, night finally overcomes the day. Filled with grandeur and verve, the tune **Evening Shadows** changes from a tame waltz into a vibrant melody. I was taken by surprise by the transformation as the mood was already established. Somehow Allaman injected a sequence of brightness among these shadows. Perhaps it is a path. This is one of my favorites. **Chasing After Wind** is easily one of the more lighter tunes on *What We Whispered*. It is the opening tune to an adventure with sunny skies, billowy clouds, and the wind that pushes you in an uplifting way. Your spirit is held aloft as you fly through the air, and it is only your fantasies that act as the impetus to fly on.

The final tune is called **Vision of Love**. The music is one of achievement, of winning the prize or in this case, a triumph of winning a heart. Eric's tune has a continuous heartbeat mixed in with a passionate melody. There is also a hint of inevitability to the music. What was meant to be, now is. It is an emotionally rich euphony for the winning spirit.

Other tracks include **At One, Elizabeth, Far From Here, Together at Twilight,** and **Adrienne,**

On *What We Whispered* composer Eric Allaman uses a strong hand in his music. No dainty ditties live here. Remember this artist is used to scoring epic music. What we find mostly is bold phrasing, pulsating arrangements, and clear, classically embellished storyline. His solo piano instrumentals are created using contrasting textures, some with rich silk and some with slightly coarse wool, but all are woven into a cohesive fabric of modern emotional expressionism. Recommended.

- R J Lannan, Artisan Music Reviews

Noted cinematic composer Eric Allaman utilizes his extensive talents to create an album of contemporary music that reveals the answers. On his new release, *What We Whispered*, he offers a dozen thought provoking and cohesive tracks of highly listenable music with distinct dramatic elements. - R J Lannan, Artisan Music Reviews