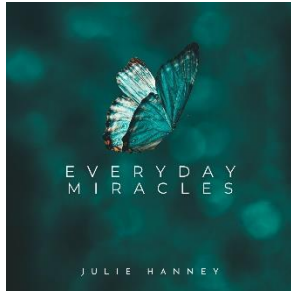


Julie Hanney

Everyday Miracles

juliehanneypiano.com



From the kind smile to the much needed hand up to the answered prayers. Every one of them is an ordinary miracle. And now the acknowledgement, the gratitude, and the memories of those miracles is perfectly penned in music by pianist **Julie Hanney**. In fourteen contemporary, passion permeated compositions called **Everyday Miracles**, Hanney gives thanks many times over. Her music is bright, warm, and down to earth.

Taking Flight, her opening track on the album obviously has classical roots, but is contemporary in nature. Her theme is rather stern, but the seriousness of first steps can be hard. First steps of moving from home, first steps to start a new job or a new relationship. All tunefully reviewed in her poignant music. Julie's composition suggests there is doubt at first. But then there comes that momentum. Created perfectly for quieter times, **Slowing Down** is a peaceful song. Julie's piano rifts cascade like soft poetry from a fount of hopefulness. It is a tune of untroubled retrospection. A look back at what was and maybe what can be. Hanney's childlike **Fibonacci Sequence** is a ballet for a little girl, or maybe one not so little. It is one of my favorites. It is a short, simple tune really. Literally, a minuet with a metronomic signature, but a conceptual theme for tranquility even though it is not quite obvious. A little imagination if you please.

Ancient Winds features Hanney's haunting ostinato of melodic reflection on times gone by. Her music suggests there is wisdom in the wind. Erosion is not just the wearing away of a thing, but the shaping, the carving, and the invisible handiwork of something unexplained. Faith plays a big part in her theme. Classical elements surreptitiously return in the tune **Synchronicity**. Experiences in our lives often appear unrelated and then... they don't. Events line up, they fall into place. There is order out of chaos. Julie's tune offers some musical balance. Sometimes, a little celebration is on order. That is what this music is for. **Birdsong** is one of the best on the album. It is musical storybook full of bright sunshine over playful paths. It is an intricate tune with lots of beginnings and endings. Hanney's little bird call is a joyous jingle throughout the piece, a constant reminder that blue skies are coming tomorrow.

Julie Hanney is an award winning pianist from Oregon whose reputation is for making music that is organically restful and unpretentious. Her melodic observations provide an atmosphere that is calming, yet touches on elements from several genres to achieve its lofty goals. This album is a successful experience. Plainly, a count your blessing kind of album. Very good. - R J Lannan, Artisan Music Reviews