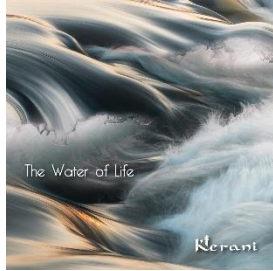


Kerani

The Water of Life



Kerani is one of the most expressive electronic composers that I know. Every album she releases is overflowing with emotion. Her themes are carefully chosen and heartfelt. **The Water of Life** is no exception. Her homage to the quintessential element of life on this planet is beautifully scored on ten illustrious tracks of ambient joy. Using piano and synthesizers Kerani is the composer and orchestrator of all the music with the accompaniment of Asia Czaj, Ewelina Krysiak, Justinas Kaunas, and Bartosz Korus on violins and viola, Stanislav Degtyarev on cello, and on vocals Gwenaelle Ghislain. Together they create fervent music that immerses you in the sounds of life giving water in all of its manifestations.

The Water of Life opens as if the planet is new, fresh, and full of life. The distillation of all the elements gives the spark for this life, but it is water that sustains it. Kerani's title tune has a strong flow as if the water is changing, eroding, and affecting everything we know. The canyons are carved, the mountains are shaped, the hills formed by the very nature of water. This is an epic tune full of geological upheaval versus complex crescendos.

We turn our faces skyward to catch the miracle of the **Healing Rain**. The beauty of rain is that it cleanses not only the earth, but our souls as well. There is a story in every rain drop, a purgative in every puddle, and a cathartic revival in every rivulet. Rain is like an answered prayer.

The Blue Wonder takes us to the hidden world under the sea. A place where life goes on without the touch of man. The sea is filled with secrets and they are ours to discover. Kerani's music is a siren song of connections. We are part of the sea and the sea is a part of us no matter where we are. Keyboard and piano blend together to give us a nautical experience that flows and yet, has a buoyancy throughout the piece. Somehow, we no longer fear the vastness that is the ocean.

Taking on a moody, somber distinction the tune **Cascade** seems a bit out of step compared to the rest of the music, but it overflows with a cinematic weightiness that gets our attention. Piano and vocalise blend in an otherworldly offering about change. As water falls it changes everything it touches. The water falling from great heights and splashing to the side even has a change on flora and fauna. This one of the more dramatic tunes on *The Water of Life* and one of my favorites

The Fountain of Youth is an intense orchestral piece with the sweeping of harp, strong piano, and heavenly vocalise. The opening sounds as if we have come over the hill and lo and behold, there it is. Like some timid creature we carefully try, watching for some miraculous change. After a time we realize the change is from within. Gwenaelle Ghislain's pure vocal expressions is a celebration of discovery. Kerani offers this exquisite song as a waltz and even my heart danced.

Using a bright synthesizer motif **Crystalline** is a revelry of prised light and vivid notes. Frozen water does indeed make ice, hence the crystals. Inside the crystal world is a transparent realm of reflection and multiplication. Through Kerani's dynamic music we are bathed in energy, in light, and in purity.

The final tune is **The Water of Life - Epilogue** and it is every bit as inspiring as the opening. Additional tracks are Divine Immersion, Sunset Lake, and Ocean Tides. What composer Kerani has done with these ten tracks of liquid bliss is give us a thought provoking environment to ponder past, present and future through vivid musical scenarios and allusions. Experiencing her fluid, inspiring, and sometimes joyful music, we can celebrate the gift of life from an immersive environment. Excellent recording. - R J Lannan, Artisan Music Reviews