

Orchestra Indigo

Farewell to Memories

orchestraindigo.com



The intellect and talent behind **Orchestra Indigo**, the synthesized ensemble that encompasses several genres, is multi-instrumentalist Rick Randlett. His latest album is twelve tracks of ambient, electronic, and modern enjoyment called **Farewell to Memories** and it is not an obvious goodbye. Using vivid memories of his early time in New England, Randlett creates music that is thought provoking and inviting. Ironically, the album has an aura, a homage if you will, to music made in the early eighties when electronics came strongly into play.

Echoing the passage of time, the title track **Farewell to Memories**, is a revisit to those cool, green forests, those moss covered rocks, and that lake that was always clear and cold. The music resounds like the time you jumped in and the water made those round waves. You become part of the music the same way you became part of the water. It is all immersive.

**A Time of Solitude** is a quiet, sedate piece. There is a marked difference between being sad and being alone, but I heard the sadness. The music is a quiet march of time made out of memories that made their impressions deep in the heart. The music represents a flow of time and it only goes in one direction.

Calm piano notes begin the track **Twilight Falls**. Each note is an emerging star until the music swells and the whole night sky is filled with them. The music feels like one of these situations where you stand in one spot and the sky revolves around you, leaving a trail of stars. Welcome to the night.

Another notable piano piece is called **Lights on a Distant Shore**. If your boat is floundering aimlessly in the darkness, this is what you hope for. Just some small vestige of light, some sign of hope. Orchestra Indigo, through its tranquil, buoyant composition provides that modicum of light.

Snippets of sound, like from a giant glass harmonium and the blending of moderate horns make up the body of the tune **Mysteries**. The tune has a subtle build to it. The music swells as it plays until finally, you have made the discovery at the end. Sort of like the Haydn's Surprise Symphony.

It is like sitting at the window with the street light on. Suddenly you see it. The first snowflake. A white, weightless puff of frozen, transformed water that looks like many things. Then the second, the third flake and then the night fills up with snow. It is Nature's miracle every time you witness it. On **First Snow** Orchestra Indigo manages to bring the delight of a childhood experience to life and transmute it into a wondrous series of winter loving notes.

The final cut is called **One Last Look**. The music is light and calming with a touch of nostalgia. It is memories. It is dreams. As in many of the tracks, the music seems to revolve around you, enfolding you in gentle sound. Do you like what you see? Just listening to the gentle music, you can tell it is hard to say Farwell to Memories.

Other tracks include Distant Worlds, In the Aftermath, A Perfect Summer Day, and Hope Eternal. I think that Orchestra Indigo captured well all those memories that changed a boy's life and ushered him into manhood. The music aptly portrays a journey of discovery and the musical remanences remain a calming feature throughout the experience.

- R J Lannan, Artisan Music Reviews