

Peter Kater

Rapture



Grammy Award winning composer **Peter Kater** proves that the time is always right for romance as he aptly portrays on his new album, **Rapture**. These dozen tracks of luscious contemporary orchestrations and piano instrumentals are the poems unwritten and the words unsaid by the many hearts that long for love deftly translated into music. Since 1983 Kater has released dozens of studio albums and collaborations and built a successful career of composing and performing. **Rapture** is another star in his sky. Speaking of which, the title tune **Rapture** is a passionate introduction to the album. The theme is dramatic and sensuous. The lover is hypnotized, enthralled, and completely given over to his emotion. Peter's piano is the heartbeat of the lover, the orchestra the blood that flows through a love struck soul.

One of Peter's light piano offerings is called **Promising**. It has the feel of a quiet, personal performance, a song for that special someone. The music flows, the time is late, and tomorrow, well tomorrow is to be experienced. **Richard Hardy** does a little bit of accompaniment on sax that keeps the momentum going despite the late hour.

**Come with Me** has a powerful driving theme. I can imagine an outstretched hand, a fast car, and a long way to go. Kater's masterful midtempo composition is emotionally exhilarating, but not at all hurried. A little flute mixed with the refrain keeps the energy going. Hold on for dear life.

**Sweet Delight** is jazzy and has a rhythmic theme with some dynamic keyboarding. There are a lot of smiles buried in this music. Smiles of admiration. Smiles of conversations. Smiles of an unseen connection. This is one of my favorites on **Rapture** for its strong sentiment. It is as if Peter is simply saying "There's something about you that I can't describe in plain words, so I wrote this for you".

**Hope of Spring** is a retrospective piece with a lyrical soprano sax and piano that comes together to offer a promise of a new day, a new life. There is a sense of positivity, a tomorrow's going to be alright kind of feel. This one is a slow dance that need never end.

Again slightly subdued and partly nostalgic is the song **Morning Bliss**. What was once dark and hidden, now has light and substance. It is more than the sun coming up. It is the contentment, the happiness, the joy that right beside you, breathing softly like a sleeping angel, is your whole world. Kater's tune is a kind of ascension into that knowledge.

The final cut, **By Your Side** is a sentimental, old tune for the present-day world. Like looking into an old photo album of black & white snapshots, every page has something of note. That one by the lake or the one when the stranger took that photo of both of you outside the café. Then this one of just her beautiful hands. Peter's endlessly playable ballad is warm with welcoming reminiscences. Each memory kindles a hundred more.

All of the songs are vignettes of a lifelong love. Every tune is a hold me and let us dance the dance of life together tune. I do not believe Peter Kater could have written, nor performed the music with more emotion or more sentimentality than that on Rapture. Highly listenable.

- R J Lannan, Artisan Music Reviews