

Ronald Van Deurzen

Imaginations



Imaginations, the latest release by **Ronald Van Deurzen** is eleven tracks of relaxing, creative, ambient music. Van Deurzen uses light orchestra and solo piano to balance out his offerings. Like an old time slide show, each track is a snapshot of a different locale, a different environment, and a very different musical representation. Seasonal changes, variations of light, and daytime fantasies are all subjects for Ronald's keen imagination and we as listeners greatly benefit from his musings.

The album opens with **Little Fallen Flake**. For some, a single snowflake tumbling from a pale gray sky is just the beginning to a backyard adventure or a big, round man with a funny hat and a carrot nose. For others, one tiny snowflake can lead to a crackling fire, a cup of cocoa, and a romance that will take the chill off of any willing heart. Ronald's solo piano tune is a quiet, warm episode for any season.

Moon Flower is a gentle tune that describes the big, white round flowers that bloom once the sun goes to bed. The soft white trumpets reflect the silver light of the moon. The air is heavy with its heavenly perfume as you stroll hand in hand in the garden. Van Deurzen's piano is jazzy, uplifting, and dreamy. The melody is light and flowing.

One of the more notable tunes on *Imaginations* is called **Beaches of Heaven**. Clocking in at nearly eight minutes, it is a multi-layered ambient fantasy. When you walk on these beaches you could be anywhere on the planet or somewhere in your dreams. From the white sands of St. Maarten to the green sands beaches of Hawaii and everywhere in between. Ronald's lush phrasing gives the tune an ethereal vibe melded with an ancient voice from an unknown prophet, but the mix works well enough to get the daydreams going. The breaking of ocean waves adds to the mystique.

Crickets and crowing add to the ambiance of the tune **Midsommar Känsla** (Midsummer Feelings). The enchanting solo piano paints a picture of a glorious Swedish night of firefly displays, brilliant stars, and two hearts that shine as one. There is some notable highly charged emotions in this song, the electricity drawn from the air itself. It segues into the song **Come Back Because I Love You**, is a song of yearning, a longing so deep you can almost hear the sound of a broken heart in the tune. It is a situation where a words fail. So here is this song.

Momentum Figures, another long tune, has a cinematic flavor. There is a lot going on in this one and that is why it is so special. It is a merry tune full of adventures and discoveries and its stimulating soundscape would make a perfect accompaniment to your personal journey. This was a favorite on the album.

Ronald Van Deurzen is an international award winning pianist from the Netherlands with several albums to his credit. He features New Age music with a complementary complex mix of

classical, jazz, Celtic, and Nordic themes. Imaginations is one man's journey to the North, a Swedish delight of places not just pinpointed on a map, but deep in the spirit. Highly Listenable.

- R J Lannan, Artisan Music Reviews