



KEN ELKINSON: Cue (CD on August Son Productions)

This release from 2007 offers 50 minutes of solo piano music.

One piano, two hands, a plethora of keys, an inventive mind--combine these and you get pleasant tunes that stir the soul. And the songs engage the psyche as well, peppering the listener's memory with fond memories evoked by the soothing melodies.

Nimble notes cascade forth, describing endearing tunes that float with a fanciful buoyancy. While one hand conjures a lively riff, the remaining digits are busy establishing lavish backdrop chords to support the main melody.

While the general tone is pacific and easygoing, some tracks tickle the edge of increased vitality with passages that strive to sensitively rouse the audience to alert perception.

A bouncy sensibility pervades these tunes, elevating them from dry simplicity into artistic illumination.

The last track features brooding vocals.

These compositions are delicate and heartfelt. Emotional content flows with ease, triggering a variety of moods in the audience. This recital will evaporate routine stress and deliver you to a realm of gentle breezes and lilting sunlight, where piano melodies waft along the temperate beach, carrying understated passion with each note.

- Matt Howarth