

Somewhere Around

By

Earthshine

Written by

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Peter Cox is back, fresh from his success with Forest Field still climbing in the world 100 on O.W.M. and the top ten placing of his last release as Earthshine.

He now follows up that amazing achievement with another album under the guise of the Earthshine project called ***Somewhere Around***, and if you like the last one, then you are going to be blown away with this new offering.

Cox takes us back and forward within the New Age and Rock genre with a timeless gaze, the opening track is called ***Between the Stars*** and starts with a real electronic feel, it is as if we have taken flight dear reader on a journey through the stars under the careful captainship of Cox himself.

Out first port of call is interestingly enough the red planet and the track ***Sunset on Mars*** reminds me of an old Fleetwood Mac composition from the late sixties, the guitar takes us past Demos and Phobos and down onto the planet to watch the sunset. There is a real melodic, almost sad sense here; the guitar seems to be delivering a narrative of times past and eon's far over the horizon.

Down to Earth is next dear reader; this piece may have you asking the question, if we are arriving at Earth, then where have we come from? The start is very deep and moody, the composition really creates an inner imagery of the views that we may be experiencing through the music, and there is a real essence of Vangelis in this track that takes me back to the album Albedo 0.9.

Earthshine as a project has really excelled on this album and Peter Cox has driven forward in uncharted territory with great ease, but with such fine musicianship, as you will see from the next piece called ***Floating on Air***. On the last album the longest track was just over 5 minutes long, now we are treated to 7 minutes plus of absolutely delightful music.

We have it all here dear reader, we have a stunning Piano and swirling synths to start off a truly incredible composition. One can feel a sense of liberation within the song and the air and room that the Piano gives is sublime. Cox has really progressed on this release and ***Floating on Air*** is a fine example of that progression, the percussion kicks in at just over the half way point, which adds a whole new dimension to the piece and lifting it into the realms of a true classic.

We now move dear listener from the air to another element and now find ourselves immersed in the deep seas of a track called ***Kneedeep in the Ocean***. A powerful and really energetic offering that has some fine electronic wizardry in it from Cox, there is also a hint of Jean Michael Jarre here.

Once more a timely percussive beat takes over the helm and it feels like we have sunk deep into the sea's, and now at last have found some movement to set us forward, once more on our journey. Keep an ear out for a very clever Jazz moment of divine instrumentation on this piece, unexpected, but a real trade mark of Earthshine and Peter Cox.

Swiftly we move into a piece of angelic mastery called ***Snowstorm on the Ice***. The harmonics here are superb and the percussion is the driving force that forges us ahead through the cold storms ahead. Some extremely clever synth work has us really feeling the winds and storms blowing around us, Cox has created another track of brilliance here as once more he pushes himself with another 7 minute opus of genius.

Cox has that uniqueness about him that some others just can't seem to attain and on the track ***Grand Canyon*** dear reader, we have arrived at a very vast and scenic soundscape indeed. The piano takes the lead here to create a track that paints a vista of outstanding natural beauty. The synths add to a mix that seems to float in and out of the Canyon walls themselves.

Now we have arrived at the penultimate piece off this new release called Somewhere Around, by Earthshine, it is called ***Garden Party***, an interesting title that for a moment reminded me of a song by Marillion! However here Cox takes on a rhythmic journey of exploration, and into the fusion of smooth Jazz and

progressive new age, there is quite a tempo in this piece that will delight all who listen to it, a track that really crosses boundaries with ease and great skill.

Once more we are at the end of our journey dear reader and listener, Earthshine has delighted us with another fresh release, some incredible playing on an album that under the guise of the Earthshine project that has really moved on since the last album. We finish with a piece called **Big City**.

A light hearted and upbeat ending to the album can be found here, again up-tempo, it is like the journey has led us down from the stars, across the oceans and towards our final destination the **Big City**. This is another clever piece that alters in pace along the way that draws to a conclusion our journey through the world of Peter Cox as Earthshine for this time around.

Somewhere Around as an album is a real progression of great magnitude for Peter Cox and since the last release called Earthshine, he has really pushed boundaries and moved into musical lands never before trodden, the experimental feel is still here, the uniqueness is still here, but the bar has been raised, this is one album that if you miss it or hesitate in getting it, you will regret it, this is indeed a very special musical offering from Earthshine.