

Straight From the Heart

By

Matias Bacoňsky

Written by

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As a pianist **Matias Bacoňsky** doesn't shy away from the deeper areas of life's rich pattern, his last album, the emotive and powerful *Life and Death* album is a fine example of this man's passion and dedication to taking on the dark wells of our emotions, and here on this new release he gives it to us, straight from the heart.

The opener is **Chasing A Dream**, a piece of two parts, an opus of light and shade perhaps, this composition also has some beautiful segments contained within, then as if we are running to pursue that dream, the tempo elevates to illustrate to us, the eager listener, that the constant nature of the *chase* is one that can never be satisfied.

The mood takes a sullen swing now with the offering **Depths Of Despair**. The darkness moves around us like a storm cloud gathering in a distant overture of sadness, and Bacoňsky is our musical sentinel who watches each and every movement of this desolation, and draws a poignant narrative for us to be a part of.

Matias Bacoňsky's musical heart is always on his sleeve, and on **Song For Sorrow** that is even more evident. In an alternate way this track is quite beautiful, after all, even sorrow must dance to its own tune, and Bacoňsky has created that melody with great craft and intelligence on this piece.

Our Illusion is one of my personal favourites off the release, there was something so very reflective about this composition, and the sheer depth of emotion here is overwhelming. For me this is a wonderful arrangement, and

one that is completely steeped in memory for a longing for things long since gone, that never will return. It has to be said that **Matias Bacoňsky's** performance on this piece and the use of a minor narrative in this track is simply sublime.

Missing You is up next, this is a real song of yearning bathed in a longing of the heart to be one again. One feels like this is a cathartic journey for the artist and at some stage, for us too. Listen to the artist increase the mood and intent on this track, as it moves forever onward, while creating a truly passionate offering.

At the mid-way stage we come across a composition of hope. Bacoňsky starts carefully here, and it would be wise to pay close to the steady build and progression on this one. **I Will See You Again** is manifested with a great deal of craft and purpose, and is one of those pieces that you will want to come back to many times over, just to take in all the clever nuances of the performance.

Last Time Together is a precious song, so tender and so very heart rendering. The deepness of this composition is bathed in an almost dejected agony of acceptance that things are about to end. The artist treads with care here, but the emotive essences beg for one more musical kiss, before the night finally comes down.

Like the silver light of the moon on the midnight ocean of life, we sail our musical ship now into the arms of the next offering entitled **No More**. The acceptance mentioned earlier has now sunk in, and this musical journey now takes us to a place of nothing, a realm of emptiness, where there is void, a realm of no more. This is a dramatic opus of sound and energy that seems to fly from the artist's musical palate, to surround us in a very cinematic style indeed.

This next piece seemed familiar to me, the style here is extremely dramatic and exciting and called **Last Hope**. The driving force behind this track is enticing; it grabs the attention and never lets it go. Emotional yes, but the key word here is hope, and while we have that, anything is possible; Bacoňsky illustrates this with a superb performance on piano.

This musical journey has taken us to some of the deepest parts of our psyche, it has taken us to the very core of our existence and as we listen to **Until The End**, we come across a track of determination and intent. Listen to the fluency of the artist on this composition; it really highlights his skills as a pianist, one of great passion and style.

The penultimate gateway to this inner dimension of the album is now upon us, and called **Nostalgia**. This is a real song from the attic, it's one of those pieces that blows away the dust from lock box of yesteryear, and allows us once more to relieve those happy memories of days gone by. Bacoňsky has delivered an arrangement here that seems to move us both forwards and back in time, but with such elegance and grace.

We have reached the very last portal in this realm of solo piano, and **Matias Bacoňsky** has been our tour guide through this veritable art gallery of emotional and moving compositions. His last gift to us also happens to be the longest offering on the album at just short of seven minutes, and entitled **Time Is Running Out**. This is simply genius; Bacoňsky has created something special here that seems to be able to slow down the hourglass of time, I rate this song to be the best track I have ever heard from Bacoňsky, he should be incredibly proud of his performance here, which is so accomplished. Pay also close attention to the end of this track as it illustrates the reason for the title perfectly.

Straight from the Heart has been named and named well, it's a collection of powerful, dramatic and deeply moving compositions that you will not failed to be impressed with. Bacoňsky's performances here are intense and penetrating, with each twist and turn of each arrangement, **Matias Bacoňsky** keeps you firmly riveted as he plays, straight from his heart.