

The Fall of a Sparrow

By

Timothy Crane

Written by

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It's amazing to think just how time flies, I remember my first contact with **Timothy Crane**, all of four years ago with his album *Piano Forte* and here I am now walking through the realms of his latest offering, **The Fall of a Sparrow**.

We start with a brisk opener, called **Albion**, which is the oldest known name for the country of my birth, Britain. This lively short form gift for our musical journey moves us onwards and towards a piece called **Come Holy Spirit**, a reflective composition, that has a sense of its own energy about its construction. There is a beautiful fluency about Cranes performance and with the added instrumentation we are gifted a truly picturesque arrangement; there is a mood about this piece that is so enticing. The pause and change of tempo over the half way mark is clever and then the track seems to increase in intensity, this is certainly one to listen to a few times over.

The symphonic start at the beginning of **The Sound of Snow** was incredibly beautiful; one could imagine with ease this piece being part of a blockbuster seasonal movie. The piano then takes up the narrative and we are gifted a memorable and quite breath-taking composition of great quality and style.

To Rise and Go is up next, a flowing start on piano is only added to by a respectful layer of added instrumentation that creates for us a melodic piece, which perhaps seems to usher in a new path to be taken. There also seems to be an opportunity to move onward through this piece, which we must do now, as we move onto the next track.

That song is **Father and Son**. I was blessed to have had some amazing times with my father, those memories still linger as I get older, and here Crane has manifested an arrangement that is so thoughtful in its repose. One could imagine a father and son sharing some private moments that would never be forgotten through the energy of this piece.

I really enjoyed the change in tempo on the track **Alone**. A perfect careful beginning, drawing a narrative of aloneness is our start, and then Crane creates a narrative through his performance that is tinged with a sense of mournfulness, but always retaining a sense of hope within the construction of the composition.

Star Cross Moon is one of those tracks you wait for, almost know how it's going to go, but still amazed at the depth of arrangement and compositional structure. Listen to the flow here, it's truly moving, you could easily be standing outside listening to this in the early hours, watching the shooting stars fly across the face of the moon, the strings here are so carefully played, the orchestration is perfect for the theme and one of my favourite tracks of the release.

We now move into the second half of the album and come across a song called **The First Day**. The title poses many questions for each of us, but Crane's skill in multi-instrumental performance is sublime. The piano dictates the narrative and the track just flows with an all empowering energy of a new beginning, a new day, the power within this piece just cannot be denied.

I love festivals and on **Festival de Musique**, we have a wonderful sense of excitement built into the arrangement of the piece. The percussion here is perfect for the tracks flowing narrative. Crane's empowering playing is energetic and exciting and filled with a musical colour that is alluring.

There have been a few albums and tracks that have landed on my desk about the dawn and first light; it is an inspiring time of the day and one that I love. Here the artist manifests a soft, but growing sense of anticipation on the composition called **Slowly Awaken the Dawn**. Through the tones of this beautiful piece one can almost watch musically the forest awaken, and a new day begin.

The title track is up next and I can see why our listeners are falling in love with it on the radio. This is another cinematic opportunity created by Crane, one that flows with a classical passion. **The Fall of a Sparrow** has everything, perfect pace, a superbly emotive melody and a formidable powerful symphonic sense of musical grandeur; this is a truly marvellous title track.

As we move deeper into the album we come across a piece called **Promise**, there is an undeniable sense of intensity here, the passion flows strong within this offering, we can feel through Cranes performance just how important this promise actually is. Listen also to the beautifully paced percussion and symphonic build and progression in this piece, it's something to behold.

The night has fallen and it's time to walk within the realm of visions, and here on **Daniel's Dream** we have the perfect soundtrack for that moment in time. This is another favourite of mine. Crane plays this very carefully, but the anxious nature of this arrangement is quite addictive, the artist has perfectly manifested the theme music for these night time perambulations. Listen to the dark segment here on the lower notes; this is one of those pieces I could listen to many times over.

Our penultimate offering is called **Chasonnette**, which I believe may mean Little Song. Whatever the meaning this piece is far from tiny, Crane has a supreme ability to grow greatness even from the smallest composition. There is a real sense of fun and happiness here as well, that is so charming and inviting to listen to.

So we reach the end of our journey with **Timothy Crane** and his latest work **The Fall of a Sparrow**. But before we push open the last door and leave this musical dimension, the artist has one more gift for us to take along our way and called **At Home in the Garden**. It's always good to leave your listener fulfilled and wanting more and on this track Crane does just that. It's a sun kissed composition that builds slowly and creates a warm and lush back drop of sound, for us to leave this latest offering from the musician with a happy smile upon our faces.

The Fall of a Sparrow by **Timothy Crane** is an album that will not only pacify those whole love piano based arrangements, but also please those of us who love the added instrumentation that's cleverly weaved into the mix. **Timothy**

Crane's expertise in composition and performance has brought to us, a truly splendid offering that will have us smiling all the way home, in an album that is packed with a melodic genius and will remain forever in the musical heart, an album bursting with a quality and style that should completely entrance the listener forever.