

Deep

By

Adam Werner

Written by

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There is a wonderful sense of quality, a rich tapestry of sound, a lush and colourful canvas of musical bliss, that can be found on one of the most outstanding albums of the year, that album is **Deep**, and has been created by the extremely talented and soulful **Adam Werner**.

From the very first beginnings on this sparkling journey, we are treated to performances that stand out as simply brilliant. The opening piece called **Sage and Sand (For Tristan)** is one example of pure quality in tone and balance, utilising the talents of *Samite* on both vocals and flute, they bring a real global feel to the composition and all the while Werner's sumptuous guitar, just plays and creates a peaceful and calming resonance.

After that chilled opener, the bar has been set high, and I am elated to hear the next composition carries forward the standard of luxurious excellence. This arrangement is called **Thank You** and has proven to be very popular with the listeners on *One World Music Radio*. Werner has that magical Windham Hill style and manifests a truly classy creation which also contains some deep and resonating bass from *Kris Tischbein*.

There is something very special about this next piece, it's called **The Hunted** and it has a superbly arranged essence of uncertainty and tentative care built into the song. A solo piece by Werner that really creates a reality of being hunted, hiding and evading capture, in some ways Werner's guitar reminds me a little of early *Eagles*, especially on a track called *Bitter Creek*.

The masterful qualities of an artist who knows well his musical soul, can be found right here on this album, and why not dear constant reader. This next offering is another fine example of that statement; we arrive at a musical portal that offers us up a composition called **Footprints in the Fog**, a track that is what I would class as a clever arrangement. It was also amazing to see the inclusion of world class guitarist *Ken Verheecke* in partnership with Werner on this one, the duo create a wonderful layered performance on this upbeat composition.

Werner now plays a small form piece called **Interlude**, before we set off once more on our musical sojourn into the realm of **Deep**.

There is so much passion and emotion on this next offering, it makes it so very appealing to the heart and minds of each of us dear listener, it's called **The Impending Death of the Virgin Spirit**. A curious, but meaningful title, a respectful and mournful performance from Werner can be found here, and one that is only highlighted further by the quite masterful skills on Bass, by the man himself *Michael Manring*.

Another short form journey now in the guise of a soft and joyful reverie called **Island Swing**, which features a Werner solo on Ukulele, and then once more we adjust our course and head off towards a creation that we shall forever know as the title track, and of course called **Deep**. **Deep** by name, deep by nature, this is a beautiful moment of acoustic guitar magic, and Werner's performance on his title header is simply sublime, reminding me in parts of another touched by the magician's hand of *Will Ackerman*, in one *Vin Downes*, here too, we feel that we could easily be transported across a deep blue ocean of sight and sound, this is a composition that illustrates perfectly the entire concept of both track and album brilliantly.

As we move deeper into the musical dimension called **Deep** by **Adam Werner** we come across a really mystical, yet intriguing song called **Psyche vs Soul**. I have been so fascinated by this amazing track, I have now listened to it several times, and each time I do, I hear more very subtle, but very clever techniques used, craft styled chord changes and the overall delicacy with which this moody, yet classy piece is played, is simply incredible, a tip of the hat also to bassist *Kentaro Otsuka* on this one.

Now for something sun kissed, as we find a composition called **Kealia Sunrise**. Once more Werner goes for a combo with guitarist *Jim "Kimo" West* and the duo bring into this world an offering of musical smiles, which of course we will be more than happy to accept. Listen to the fine finger style here and the crisp use of harmonics, a perfectly placed track as we draw to the end of our journey.

So we're here, the penultimate piece off the release, and I must say this has been one of the most delightful moments of musical therapy that I have had for months. Our last but one offering is called **Prelude to a New Beginning**, this track may only be just under two minutes, but illustrates the skill of the artist to narrate and create a musical segment so well, one that will lead us right to the door of the final track called **Early Mourning Passage**.

I have long admired the true thinking artist, those who have a special skill set to end an album so cleverly, especially an album like this one, something of great style and class, but all the while leaving you wanting more. **On Early Mourning Passage** you have just that, Werner's decision to include EBow performer *Adam Howe* and vocalist *Sydney Easton* on this piece was, and is, pure genius, and thus it leaves us the dear constant listener, with the perfect musical vehicle with which to leave the release, with a feeling of total peace.

Deep by **Adam Werner** is not only a good album, it is a release bathed in utter quality. With each and every track, you can literally feel the care and attention to detail, the passion and pride of completing something that is honestly, totally outstanding. Werner's strong conviction and personal belief in this album is completely justified, and I would recommend this collection of beautiful works to anyone who loves truly good music in a heartbeat, you're really not going to get much better than this.