

Seven Last Words

By

Scott Lawlor

Written by

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Scott Lawlor is known across the world for his vast productions of dark ambient music, ones that create wide open landscapes of sound that literally travel through time and space, in this latest release he has taken on the topical subject of Easter, of giving his interpretation of the Christian faith's religious celebration and explains in his own words, "Seven Last Words is a more meditative approach to the events leading up to the celebration of Easter and what is the defining event in the Christian religion, the resurrection of Christ"

For me, it is another chance to dive into the deep waters of the mind of the artist, and navigate each and every track along the way, giving each creation credit on its own merit and standing, and enjoying something that Lawlor does so well and that's creating opuses of vast intent, with a multi-dimensional quality, like the opening piece, **Introduction - Love, Loss, Redemption and the proclamation of the Seven Last Words**. Here stands a composition of sublime understanding, one that has an underlying texture of realization bathed into the arrangement.

The chime of the bell at the start of **The 1st Word - O patéras tous synchoreí giatí den xéroun ti kánoun** is a really nice touch and adds a deliberate effect of ambience to the overall composition, creating an artistic juxtaposition between the beauty of the day's cadence, to the tragedy of events about to unfurl, this, like all the tracks flow into each other with a seamless transition.

We are then transported into the following narrative of **The Foreshadowing of Entombment**. This maybe short form in size, but compared to many other tracks off the album it is easily the darkest, I have been into a tomb here in

Cyprus and I can tell you first hand it is an ominous experience, and this track would fit that experience perfectly.

The chimes now usher in a second word and that title is **The 2nd Word - simera tha eísai mazí mou ston parádeiso**. There is a real distinct elevation of energy here; one can feel the floating essence of Lawlor's synths really take hold, it is like the music is literally lifting you up as you listen. This musical rhapsody floats with a pristine quality into the following narrative called **The 3rd Word - Mater Dolorosa**. This I would say was my favourite piece from the release, the cello sound here is deeply moving, but manifests a whole new reality of sound and depth within the album. I rate this, which is one of the longest offerings off the album, to be the cleverest. Again there is a juxtaposition of music being played out here, the lightness of the synth work which has elevated three fold, but the darkness and sombre narrative of the Cello, totally and utterly classy indeed.

The next sojourn of music takes place at the track entitled, **The 4th Word - Eli Eli lama sabachthani**. Here lies a lighter touch; a truly sensitive approach that is quite delicate to perceive; this gossamer winged opus manifests something quite breathtakingly beautiful but also sorrowful and deeply haunting in within its musical complexities.

We now find ourselves in waters uncharted musically speaking, as we come across a composition called, **The 5th Word - ah-NEE tsah-MAY**. These next two offerings are shorter in length than the spine of the rest of the album, but both with, **The 6th Word – Tetelestai** being the following offering, create an uplifting sense of reality within the release, one could feel that within the music, we are being offered a tableau of change, of rebirth perhaps, both pieces float beautifully together in a virtual ascendancy of musical symbiosis. These two fine examples of musical cleverness are what make **Scott Lawlor** one of the foremost electronic musicians of his age.

The very last pathway of tone and timbre now stands before us in all of its glory and it is called **The 7th Word - Pater in manus tuas commendo spiritum meum**. This arrangement is the longest offering off the album at 15 minutes long and from the hovering synth work and back drop of distant angelic harmonious voices; it seems to be a composition of a completion, one of

transmutation of sorts. The skill set of Lawlor is such that he literally feels each note he creates and thus establishes a creator's relationship with it. Here he brings you an end of the album, as such it is, but one that maybe leaves the listener questioning their thoughts in a final piece where there are more questions left than answers.

Scott Lawlor has stood strong and created this vast iconic work of art with his heart on his sleeve, and his mind open to all possibilities. This is what makes this album for me enticing, there can be no doubt that Lawlor is a prolific electronic musician, and within this offering entitled **Seven Last Words**, he has created an album that will be adored by the legions of dark ambient fans around the globe, and will intrigue each and every listener it comes into contact with.