

Flutin' Around

By

Thomas Green

Written by

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I must say it makes a very pleasant change for me to get a chance to review a flute based album and **Flutin' Around** by **Thomas Green** is simply idyllic in all ways, a joyful and chilled moment of musical magic I have certainly found here.

The opener is called **Take a Ride** and a more sun kissed laid back composition you would not find, this slightly jazzy offering is our a melodic starting piece, it is a fine example of a truly chilled out flute performance, and simply the best way to start off an album of this style with its multi instrumental nature.

Winter Warmth, what a cosy composition this one is, even though I do write this at the start of summer, I could easily see Chrissie and myself cuddling up on a blanket in front of a fire to this one. The performance by Green is really heart-warming and very charming and features Joseph Matera.

On **Rainy Day in Brooklyn** we have another scene setting opus, Green certainly does have a delightful way of painting with his music, the thunderstorm here wins points from me, and the keyboard is inventive, as is the crafted bass work. Greens flute takes you right to the window to watch the rain fall another track that features Joseph Matera; this was one of my personal favourites from the album.

We now come across a fascinating piece called **Desert Dancer**. I could with ease visualise the sight of a woman dancing across the dunes of sand to this one. There was a little funky element here that I loved too; it is almost like the flute is performing in a symbiotic way with the dancer. Gentle keyboards lay a clever path for the composition to follow.

Journey of Two Friends which also features Joseph Matera, is one of those pieces that will literally hover around you with a sense of camaraderie and a great deal of warmth. Greens flute here is sublime at creating a really honest musical narrative; this is a true feel good piece that you will completely enjoy and one that will leave you with a smile on your face at its conclusion, I'd like to also add that I really appreciated the almost Santana like guitar in this composition too.

We now find ourselves at the half way mark of the album and as we arrive here we come across an offering entitled **The First Time**. Green adds a little extra emotion on this track that is really evident, partnered with some attractive keyboards and some pertinent percussion; this is one offering that has a wonderful lightness of spirit about its construction.

Summer Breeze is up next, I used to really like the music of the *Isley Brothers* back in the 70's, especially this song. The arrangement is true to the original, but Green adds a little flute fluency here and manifests a really calm mood whilst doing so; during the song I am sure I could picture the Jasmin blowing through my mind. This is the last track on the album that also features Joseph Matera.

We now arrive at another one of my personal favourites from the album; it is called **Watching Clouds Pass**. This for me had a real native feel to the build and progression of the piece, but the guitar here was deliciously ambient. At just under six minutes this is the longest offering off the album and one that I could easily enjoy on my balcony as the summer clouds drift by on this May afternoon. The percussion partnered with the majestic flute of Green is something to musically behold here.

We are now in the deeper waters of the album, and as we musically swim around the rock pools of our lake of tone, we come across a really passion filled offering called **Like Father Like Son**. The acoustic guitar adds the rhythm, while Greens flute is the master narrator of the piece, and what a superb performance it is. A very inventive track indeed can be found here, one that again contains a great deal of warmth in the construction of the song.

So we have now reached the penultimate offering of the album and this one is called **Looking Back**. Pay close attention to the lightness of the keyboards here,

they are a perfect musical carpet for Greens charming flute. The artist really lifts the listener on this piece, one that perhaps has a musical tale to tell of lessons learned and moving onward and upward.

Amazingly we have arrived at the very last track of the album and this final gift is entitled **Amazing Grace**. Yes, this is Greens own version of the classic from the pen of Anglican Clergyman *John Newton* back in 1779. The skills of Green here capture a special moment in musical time, for me we used to have to sing this in school, but I am sure you will have your own memories as well, beautifully done and respectfully so as well.

Flutin' Around by **Thomas Green** does exactly what it says on the can, it is a collection of cheerful and memory filled compositions that create a real sense of bliss and happiness, but done so in a very chilled and relaxed way. This album is one of those that would be perfect for creating a calm mood and then just simply bathing in it, nicely produced and craft fully played, and one to recommend without a doubt.