

Markus Segsneider "String Tales"

This 32-year-old German finger style guitarist, nowadays living in Cologne, Germany, studied Classical and Jazz guitar at the Music Academy and taught himself to play mandolin and Lap steel guitar.

Influenced by jazz/fusion guitar and rock bands such as Genesis, King Crimson and Yes, he decided to make this mainly acoustic album String Tales.

Listening to this album feels energizing and uplifting, with its 8 fantastic finger style compositions, 2 semi-acoustic pieces and 1 electric piece.

Diving for Shells, the opening track, is full of captivating melody lines and outstanding techniques. His way to compose is intriguing and balanced as on Midwest Torrent. Autumn is a splendid and well-structured acoustic ballad. Pick & Pepper is a top-notch electric, fast-picked piece with a well-executed melody. Little Boat is a moody acoustic composition with surprising arpeggios on varied chord changes. Daydream in Space is reminiscent of Pat Metheny's album One Quiet Night. Yesterday Friends is an intimate ballad with demanding chord structures and a brilliant melody.

With String Tales, Markus Segsneider establishes a collection of first-rate guitar techniques, combined with rhythmical, structured and high quality melody line building achievements, which could be a good source for any guitarist.

Henk te Veldhuis

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