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Relaxed acoustic music with the mysterious sound of the Cello.
Hear the many colors and nuances of the Emperor of the Orchestra.

Grammy nominated cellist David Darling calls it:

“an orchestral and sonic triumph of sound...you give us so many voices to listen to and as a cellist I would have to say that Kalyan is a first rate modern jazz and world music cellist...”

Cello Circles

Recorded between 2001 and 2008 Cello Circles has taken its own time to come to a point of completion. Started as a fun project between friends living on opposite sides of the globe, this CD grew organically into a richly orchestrated ode to the many colours and nuances of the cello.

Sambodhi Prem has been a recording artist with releases dating back to the mid-eighties, mostly guitar-based instrumental music and introspective titles for relaxation.

Kalyan is a classically trained cellist and multi instrumentalist, with skills on stringed and wind instruments. This CD has his cello in the main role, but there are also plenty of minor roles for a host of interesting instruments that he plays.

The Indian dilruba is heard on two pieces, plucked on the intro of ‘Leaving Space’ and bowed on the last piece ‘Spring Water’, the Japanese kyotaku flute can be heard on ‘This Moment’. And there are the more familiar sounds of the fretless bass and the recorder, all played by Kalyan.

By no means is this an album of world-music mishmashes, the tone is focussed on the cello but there’s enough breathing space for many other sounds to have a place. Most pieces are ‘down-tempo’, but with a constantly changing landscape of sounds.

The compositions were written by both players – Sambodhi did most of the production and the recording of the backing tracks. You can hear that lots of thought went into the compositions, as the music is never repetitive and it holds your interest even after repeat listenings.

tags

cello, improvised, original compositions, superb sound quality, creative sound scape, acoustic guitar, dilruba, kyotaku flute, fretless bass, recorder, sensitive organic music, played by real people on real instruments, classical sound but with an improvisational feel, art cover painting

Relaxed acoustic music with the wonderful sound of the Cello – fluid melodies interwoven with guitar, keyboard and flutes.

Improvised cello & acoustic guitar with rich musical textures. Hear the many colours and nuances of the Emperor of the Orchestra.



Cello Circles ~ Kalyan & Sambodhi Prem

My collaboration with Kalyan has been a wonderful journey of reaching across physical oceans, but with a musical closeness and creative richness – resulting in 8 compositions where the sound of the cello merges with my guitar, the textures of my studio, and the range of other instruments that Kalyan plays.

During the recording of Cello Circles I was mostly living “down-under” in Australia and New Zealand, while Kalyan lives in Canada. We collaborated from afar, working together for the love of music, for our own entertainment, until we found that music had emerged which we felt to share with more people than just our closest friends.

At the heart of this music is improvisation - the starting point that guides us when we create. Add a little bit of musical luck and a few blessings from the gods of technology, plus a heavy dose of work to bring things to completion – making music is a bit like cooking – timing and tasting is everything.

Over the course of this recording, which started in 2001 and was released in September 2008, I’ve fallen in love with the sound of the cello. Kalyan’s approach towards the instrument is playful, yet deep. His meditative energy makes the instrument the perfect vehicle for his musical expression. Being an experienced musician on Indian instruments like the dilruba and the rudra veena gives him a point of reference very few cellists have. He brings so much to the instrument and to this project, I feel truly honored to be working with him.

I love the cello because it’s able to express great depths of sadness and is equally able to reach the heights of joy - expressing a special kind of joy – a joy that has a depth unique amongst musical instruments.

I also want to mention that I’ve been fortunate having Sandipa help me with the delicate process of making music long-distance and receiving her great support. She created a beautiful painting, *Harmony in Lily Flat Major*, while this album was being recorded which you can see on the cover.

One of the best things in my life is to create music with a friend and feeling the connection and shared understanding when all the pieces fall into place and there is an expression of both our uniqueness, merged into one flow. I have experienced this while playing in a live setting, but to have that same feeling on a recording has been a most wonderful gift.

Sambodhi Prem

Tracks:

- 1 | [A Wave that Holds](#) 7:47
- 2 | [Leaving Space](#) 6:09
- 3 | [Circles in the Sky](#) 12:25
- 4 | [Four Winds](#) 6:53
- 5 | [Dancing Fields](#) 8:28
- 6 | [This Moment](#) 4:17
- 7 | [Friendliness](#) 8:44
- 8 | [Spring Water](#) 8:26

total time: 1 hr 3 min

