



Introduction

Daniel Robert Lahey is unique among composers working on the netlabel scene in several ways. The first being the most obvious: he is composing classical music. Classical music is perceived in many ways by many people. Many people think of classical music as old and stodgy with little relevance to contemporary music. Of course nothing could be further from the truth: classical music is as contemporary today as it has been for the last three hundred years. It grows and changes with us and our society.

Some think classical music is complicated. But really, the idea of the 3-5 minute long pop song denies what music really is to many artists. It denies the space to fully realize the melody of a composition, it denies the composer the opportunity to represent all the elements of a song in proper proportion. If an artist tries to

fit all the elements into a standard pop-song they must resort to complicated tricks to make it work.

We could go on talking about all the mis-interpretations and mis-understandings that surround classical music. However, that would not explain what Daniel is doing with his compositions, which is more important to focus on.

Daniel has chosen to express his musical ideas in the long-running, extremely relevant tradition of classical music. Many of his compositions are a reflection of life in our world today, sometimes from a slightly off-center perspective (like on “The Zookeeper Escapes” or “Baked”), while other times appealing on a purely emotional basis (like “Uncultivated Upland” or “Tears”).

Another way in which Daniel’s work is unique is his deep studies of classical music. Daniel is an outsider to the formal musical establishment, however he has a mastery over the forms and styles that are typically associated with some of the best composers and performers in the world.

But, what really is the most amazing thing about Daniel is his love of the genre. He composed because he loves to write them. He records compositions using a computer and software, and produces works that have a very organic feeling to them. In many cases it’s not easy to tell they were recorded by him sitting at a keyboard. All the subtleties and details he is able to bring into these works measure up to the level of finesse one would find in an orchestra.

Give these compositions a close listening. There is a lot to experience and a lot to savor in these well crafted, exquisitely produced recordings.

Biography



Daniel started fiddling with the keys of a piano as soon as he could reach them and whenever he could get away with it. He took guitar lessons at 10 and got very serious about it by the age of 15. (Of course, he figured it would help him pick up girls.) He devoted 12 years to the classical guitar repertoire before he'd had enough of so much work for no pay.

Toward the end of his time as a guitarist, he started playing around with Synthesizers. He has been playing keyboards for over 50 years at this point. He grew up with a love for classical music, and has studied many of the great composition masters through the years. This knowledge classical music is what informs his current works.

Website: <http://tonalchemistry.com/index.php>

Discogs: <https://www.discogs.com/artist/2728385-Daniel-Robert-Lahey>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/daniel.lahey.9>

Credits

All selections composed, arranged and performed by Daniel Robert Lahey.

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