Written by bluesever Thursday, 28 June 2018 11:06 -

Andreas Vollenweider - Kryptos (1997)



1 Domus Cordis: Fathers Tree, The Painted Gate 4:12 2 Morgana Palace 3:52 3 Hermes' Wedding 3:02 4 Under The Trees Of Hope 4:08 5 Passionata 5:53 6 Wanja The Wanderer (Concerto For Harp & Orchestra) 6:35 7 Bhambororo! 1:43 8 Forest Folks 5:07 9 Quendel And Rhomas 4:16 10 Trigon: East Of Time, Missa Obscurra, South Of Time 6:59 11 May Green Be The Grass... 6:15 12 Circus Finalis: Return Of The Heroes, The Heroes' Telling 3:11 Andreas Vollenweider - Harp, Vocals, Percussion, Ocarina, Sax Soprano, Keyboards, Flute, Guitar, Organ Leonard Eto - Drums, Cymbals Walter Keiser - Drums Jürg Zurmühle - Shakuhachi Drums [Snare] - Walter Keiser Carlo Milan, Saynho Namtchilak, Claudia Boggio - Vocals Percussion - Walter Keiser Daniel Pezzotti - Cello Mindy Jostyn - Violin, Vocals, Harmonica, Fiddle, Mandolin Eberhard Hahn - Whistle, Flute, Vocals Daniel Binelli - Bandoneon Matthias Ziegler - Flute Roman Schmid - Oboe, English Horn Peter Keiser - Bass Helmut Lipsky - Violin Ivan Conti - Berimbau, Congas Thomas Fessler - Guitar Michael Brecker - Tenor Sax La Cantapella Helvetica - Choir The Monks Of San Quixote - Choir Symphonic Orchestra Zurich Daniel Schweizer - Conductor

Kryptos, Andreas Vollenweider has stated, is a Greek word meaning "the encoded" or "hidden." Those would be fitting terms to describe the intent behind this ambitious, meandering symphonic production. Not entirely a classical recording, far afield from the Swiss harpist's pop-inclined bestsellers of the 1980s, Kryptos comes across as a culture-hopping soundtrack for a one-world vision that is screening in Vollenweider's imagination. His approach, tinged with numerous Asian flourishes, yields some interesting moments--the vibrant global jam of pennywhistle, harp, voices, and orchestra in "Under the Tree of Hope"; the murmurings of Ladysmith Black Mambazo in "Bhambororo"; the gates-of-heaven mood pieces that open and close the disc; the anthemic, three-part "Trigon," which features saxophonist Michael Brecker and brings to mind the curtain-closing spectacle of Supertramp's "Fool's Overture." Yet the disc also has a few dead spots (go-nowhere pieces such as "Passionata" and "Quendel and Rhomas"), and offers less cohesion than some listeners might prefer. Uneven, but intriguing; worth examining if you're an open-minded Vollenweider fan. ---Terry Wood, Editorial Reviews

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"Making, 'Book of Roses' definitively infected me with a 'symphonic virus'. So I seized the opportunity to emerge myself yet again in the fantastic world of sound for my next album 'Kryptos'. 'Wanja the wanderer' is a symphonic travelogue, a harp concerto with a Slavic soul. But these are moments with our 'classical' sound as well as contributions of great soloists like legendary Michael Brecker. Between Tango and Jazz and - like always - some music of the mysterious no-mans-land…" ---vollenweider.com

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