

Spyro Gyra - Access All Areas (1984)

Written by bluesever

Sunday, 24 April 2011 20:55 - Last Updated Sunday, 10 May 2015 09:37

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1. *Shaker Song* 7:14
2. *Serpent in Paradise* 5:56 [play](#)
3. *Heliopolis* 11:49
4. *Harbor Nights* 7:04
5. *Conversations* 8:30
6. *Schu's Blues* 4:47 [play](#)
7. *Morning Dance* 5:37
8. *Islands in the Sky* 6:29
9. *Sea Biscuit* 6:04
10. *Latin Streets* 8:24

Personnel:

Chet Catallo (guitar);
Jay Beckenstein (saxophone, percussion);
Jeremy Wall (keyboards, percussion);
Tom Schuman (keyboards);
Dave Samuels (vibraphone, marimba);
Eli Konikoff (drums);
Gerardo Velez (percussion).

Access All Areas is a fantastic Spyro Gyra cd. It is also their only one that is live. It was originally produced back in 1984. This album features many of their early hit songs. They are also in a different manner and end more abruptly because all of the tracks are played live before an audience. All songs are terrific, however. Note, that the piece Old San Juan doesn't appear on this album do to time restraints.

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My top 3 favorite songs from this compilation, would be tracks 5,7, and 10. Conversations is a rapidly paced, terrific song. It has a nice, jazzy beat. The musicians play very well, and it's obvious, this song being a demonstration, that the group is very talented. Especially, the drums solo on it. It actually sounds like Neil Peart is playing it, it's that good. Morning Dance is a very relaxing, tropical-like piece. Latin Streets is a good song with a good keyboard part and amazing guitar part. All other songs are extended from their usual times on their debut records and are played to perfection.

All around, this cd rocks. It's good to have it in your collection. Seeming how it is the only live Spyro Gyra album, so far. Definetly worth it. Thank you for taking the time and generosity to read my review. ---T.J. Wiebe

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