

## Mp3 Ariaphonics - Act One



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Ariaphonics created a totally new music style by combining elements of classical crossover with moods close to conceptual albums '70s. Splendid classic soprano, plus vintage electronic sound and conceptual mood. 8 MP3 Songs ELECTRONIC: Pop Crossover, CLASSICAL: Contemporary Details: Ariaphonics serves as yet another example of the diversity of material that impinges on the boundaries of Progressive Rock, further pushing out the envelope. Written and conceived by Dmitri Silnitsky the album is termed as "A Classical Crossover Breakthrough" (or so it says so on the cover), therefore I entered the album with more than a little apprehension, fearing something akin to some of the dreadful material to be found on Sky's Classic FM channel. The concept of having great pieces of classical music bastardised into some sort of accessible music form for the masses. Fortunately this is not the case here as in the main the music is written by Dmitri himself and the lyrical content by Elena Corsino. Perhaps this is as good a point as any, to look at the basic musical structure of the tracks, which derive much of their sound from the lush bed of traditional analogue synth sounds, mellotron-esque textures, pianos and organs used. Added to this are gently blended guitar tracks and the resulting canvas of sounds is at times reminiscent of Jean Michel Jarre or Vangelis, whilst at others a lightweight Pink Floyd. The pulse is provided by bass synths, distinctly programmed sounding drums / percussion, with the analogue synths and slide guitar supplying the lead sections. Timely point also to mention the other musicians contributing to the Ariaphonics album. Sash Protchenko (drums, bass and slide guitar), Slav Protchenko (keyboards - pianos, Hammond organ, mellotron violin) and Pavel Pavlov (guitars). The final ingredient is the dulcet, operatic voice of Gloria D'Amos whose vocalisation are always delightfully controlled and never excessive. All the tracks have a similar overall sound and production, although the music is more diverse covering subtle mood changes with liberal helpings of classical, opera, jazz and prog blended together. Gloria D'Amos' vocal sections

are dissected by gentle instrumentals which, on closer listening, proved more complex, with subtle odd meters evident. Favourite tracks were the Floydian Intermezzo, Divine Light [Remix] and Summer Moon. Considering that I have no love for the operatic voice Ariaphonics proved once again that an open mind can be a blessing, as yet again an album that on the surface had little to offer, proved to be a pleasant treat. The combination of warm analogue keyboards and Gloria D'Amos soprano voice forming a splendid partnership. Therefore if you have an inkling for something completely out of the norm with a relaxing nature then the first port of call must be the samples at the iGram site. Bob Mulvey Now I have, finally, heard it all. For this is the worlds first space-rock-opera! I kid you not. And by space-rock-opera I do not mean the clumsy 60s / 70s model, nor do I mean a Sarah Brightman type classical crossover, rather something unique and new. Dmitri Silnitsky , the projects producer, composer and arranger has combined arias and operatic singing with the sounds and moods of the concept albums of the 1970s by taking vintage 1970s synthesisers and mellotrons, to further capture the aura of the progressive bands in the 1970s. Which makes it retro rather than progressive, but what the hey. "Divine Light" , the opening piece leaves you in no doubt where you are heading, a bass riff leads you into a quote from Genesis (the bible, not the band), "Let There Be Light" before an opera style vocal kicks in. Remarkable. Dmitri Silnitsky is also taking hints of modern artists such as Air and Zero 7 to draw in the kids, and it could work. "Summer Moon" could easily come from the Pink Floyd canon, "Sposa son disprezata" is based on a Vivaldi riff and "Lullaby 2030" mixes up gypsy rhythms, R&B and pop-funk guitars, vocoders and a violin. Which makes no sense, especially with an Italian opera singer wailing over the top. This should not work. But does. I doubt very much whether you have ever heard anything quite like this, but you really should. Reviewer: Stuart aka zeitgeist

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