

# **Mp3 Pikoul Sisters With Cec-lia Fontes And Manuel B. Costa - San Simon**



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No less than six of these extraordinary new age/world/operatic songs have won international prizes (including the grand prize of the John Lennon Songwriting Contest, 2006) for their outstanding emotional impact and high artistic quality. 10 MP3 Songs NEW AGE: Celtic New Age, CLASSICAL: Opera Details: San Simon Project Enchanting from beginning to end, 'San Simon' is an emotional journey through medieval times painted in modern colors. The whole spectrum of timeless human emotions contained in ancient Galaico/Portuguese troubador poetry is brought into the 21st century in the hands of international prize winning composer duo Pikoul Sisters. This album is the result of a collaboration with stunning operatic duo Cecilia Fontes (soprano) and Manuel B. Costa (counter-tenor), both of whom have solo careers in the world of classical music. 'San Simon' is a mesmerising fusion of ancient and modern, using acoustic instruments coloured by electronic timbres and pop/rock/ethnic influences. The project could be said to belong to the same broad genre as Enigma, Enya, Sarah Brightman and Il Divo. Pikoul Sisters (Natalia and Marina) - composers, key-board players and backing vocalists. Cecilia Fontes - soprano. Manuel B. Costa - counter-tenor. With the Lyra String Quartet. Produced by Christian Schonberger, Pikoul Sisters and Richard Tomes. Many of the songs from this album have been awarded prizes in various international songwriting competitions: 'Love is Out There' won the Grand Prize in the 2006 John Lennon Songwriting contest, fourth prize in the 11th Unisong International Contest in the 'World' category and also received an Honorable mention in the West Coast Songwriters International Song Contest 2008('World'category). 'Fatal Spell' was voted best composition in Portugal by the International Music Award Competition, 'San Simon' was nominated for the Los Angeles Music Awards in 2007. 'The round' won the Second Prize in the Midwest Song Contest ('World' category) in 2007 and is the winner of the

'Latin' category" of the West Coast Songwriters International Song Contest 2008. 'Surrendering to love' is one of the winners of John Lennon Songwriting Contest in 2007 ('World' category). 'Sweet dreamer Solveig' received an Honorable mention in The 11th Cooch Music Amateur Songwriting Contest.

Reviews: "I must tell you how much I truly enjoyed your vibrant song. Although I don't speak Portuguese, it didn't stop me feeling the spiritual power of this for one second. Your harmonic blend is haunting, almost like one voice, even though it's two. In fact, as a veteran 25 year songwriter myself in addition to overseeing "Unisong" as one part of my own career wheel, the highest compliment I can pay you is to say I wish I'd written it myself." - Alan Roy Scott, co-founder of the "Unisong" International Song Contest. "The Pikoul Sisters captured me with their mystical musical creations. Their songs are transporting and exciting!" - Penny Towers Wilber, songwriter. "A tantalizing blend of world, classical, and new age." - Kathy Raimey, songwriter.

PIKOUL SISTERS Composers Twin sisters and co-authors Marina and Natalia Pikoul graduated as composers from the renowned Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory and went on to study at the Paris Conservatoire. They were international prize-winners as classical artists before they started to experiment in the crossover genre. Many of their chamber and orchestral compositions have been performed in Russia, Japan, Great Britain, and France, and others have been published in Russia. In Moscow they were the winners of the 1989 Contemporary Music Competition, and their winning composition Angel for baritone and piano was adopted as the obligatory contemporary work in the IX International Tchaikovsky Vocal Competition, 1990. In 2000 Natalias classical score for Christopher Hamptons play Les Liaisons Dangereuses was used for a national tour of the UK. Also in 2000 Marina's 'Romance Sonmbulo' for baritone and chamber ensemble was performed at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield and at the International Festival of Contemporary Music in Aveiro, Portugal. The sisters recently completed a fantasy operetta Margarita and Him after the modern novel The Master and Margarita by Mikhail Bulgakov.

CECLIA FONTES Soprano From Porto, Portugal, Cecilia won a European Community scholarship to the Royal Academy of Music, London, where she studied and lived for eight years. She has performed with diverse orchestras and conductors in Britain, the USA, Ukraine, and Portugal. She has recorded for the BBC World Service, RTP (National Portuguese television), and recently gave a recital at the prestigious Chicago Cultural Centre USA, which was broadcast to the entire country. She is a member of English music/dramatic trio Cavatina. With husband and pianist Jos Mara Parra she performs regularly in Europe and the USA.

MANUEL BRS DA COSTA Countertenor After his studies at

the Lisbon Superior School of Music, Manuel obtained a scholarship to attend the Royal College of Music London, where he completed a post graduate degree in performance and concert singing. During this time he was a prize-winner at several competitions, including the Graziella Schiutti Prize, the Early Music Competition, and the Keith Falkner Prize. Manuel has performed in Portugal, England, Africa, India and Macau. He sings regularly at ancient musical festivals in Macau, Coimbra, Algarve, Mafra, Guarda, Lamego, Ovar, Chaves, S.Roque, and the Gulbenkian Ancient Music Festival. He is a permanent member of the early music consorts 'Birundum' and 'Os Segris' de Lisboa. People who are interested in Enya Enigma Sarah Brightman should consider this download.

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