

Mp3 George Wallace - Frontiers



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This series of instrumental soundscapes is an atmospheric mixture of electronic and acoustic instrumentation, with sparkling, inspired musical motifs and natural ambiences. 7 MP3 Songs

ELECTRONIC: Soundscapes, NEW AGE: Ambient Details: Throughout the body of his work, George Wallace has frequently celebrated the natural world. But more than another observation of nature, *Frontiers* is an experience of travel, of motion through place and time. The series of instrumental soundscapes is a fresh, atmospheric mixture of electronic and acoustic instrumentation, with sparkling, inspired musical motifs and natural ambiences blended so artfully that we are not always sure whether we're hearing pure music...or the music of pure nature. We become aware from the very opening that we are in for a real ride. Entitled *The Traveller* (after George's own adopted alter-ego), the opening cut of this amazing trip is our invitation to strap ourselves in and hold on... As the last strains of *The Traveller* fade to silence, we touch down a moment later on the floor of a lush, primordial forest. It is here that we recognize how truly alive and joyful the forest is, all by itself. It is also here inside the mantle of this great solitary sanctuary that we may slowly come to understand our own energies. Then from this earthbound frontier valley we are delivered upwards into the mysterious heights of the Himalaya; now we are on the pinnacle between Earth and Space. It is a lovely Indian moon that smiles down tonight. She shines her sultry light on the dancing figure of a young woman high up on a lonely cliff. Finally it seems that *Frontiers* has left Earth altogether. As our humble 'Space Airplane' hurtles past the small-talk of local, interplanetary traffic towards the outer reaches (and other such scary unknowns) of our experience, a comforting thought occurs: that no matter how 'far out' the journey may take him, the Traveller can always count on there being a last ship home. We all have our particular Shenandoahs to return to; we need only keep possibilities open to find our way back. Throughout *Frontiers* there are the sounds of electric violin,

bagpipes, tamboura, gentle percussions, and some not-so-gentle. We can hear at various times the influences of Jan Hammer, Wendy Carlos, Weather Report, and Bill Nelson, as well as renowned space musicians Jonn Serrie, Michael Stearns, and Steve Roach. Whether it be through the sounds of shimmering, interstellar spacecraft, an orchestral passage in full-rejoice, or a simple piano melody played against a wall of stunningly beautiful harmonics, the soaring, visionary music of Frontiers promises to intrigue and enrich us. George's flair for composing and playing first appeared when he began classical piano and theory lessons at age eight in Philadelphia, PA. At 13 he encountered the absolute coolness of the electric guitar. He soon threw himself into a series of late'60s-influenced bands (with names like Dark Side, Soul Society, Mass Confusion) as bass player, vocalist, keyboardist, and writer. At Berklee College of Music in Boston, he majored in composition and arranging and played with other groups, settling in with "Fate", a busy, successful club act headquartered in Worcester, Massachusetts. During this time, he was initiated into multitrack recording. The group recorded a string of singles, all written and/or produced by George. He left the group after six years to pursue a solo recording career in New York City. After signing a major multi-album deal with CBS/Epic Records and a publishing agreement with Screen Gems, his two albums under that label were: Heroes like You and Me in 1980 and What It Is in 1982. Virtually all parts were sung or played by George himself. Both albums enjoyed enviable critical acclaim by numerous industry publications such as the Gavin Report, High Fidelity, Record World, Trouser Press, and Billboard. According to one reporter, George had created a "high-level synthesis of style and influences...yet with something indefinably original about it, possessed of its own quirky energy... a real thing" according to Matt Damsker of the Philadelphia Bulletin (April 26, 1981). In 1983 George left New York for Bucks County, PA, where he was free to explore the finer subtleties of his maturing songwriter's persona. He wrote and recorded over an increasingly wide range of dynamic and lyric styles. He occasionally produced other acts and produced several planetarium show soundtracks. For a little while longer, he continued writing "crash-boom-bang" material for Screen Gems; several songs from this period received airplay through cover versions from such artists as Ted Nugent, Pat Travers, and Joan Jett, as well as some European artists generally unknown in the American mainstream. His subject matter expanded into compositions more introspective and spiritual. In 1985 George formed his own new studio and production company, AirBorn Music, and produced three landmark instrumental works: Sacred Earth (1985), Communion (1988), and Frontiers (1993). All three AirBorn releases were soon taken to heart by

radio audiences for whom unique new music is the norm. He was a featured artist on Philadelphia-produced shows Diaspar and Star's End, and nationally recognized on widely syndicated shows like Echoes, Hearts of Space, and Musical Starstreams. He found himself in good radio company; the compositions of Kate Bush, Tangerine Dream, Steve Roach, Richard Burmer, Andreas Vollenweider, and Philip Glass were apt to be heard before or after a George Wallace cut had been played. In 1997 he spent a year and a half in Japan, where he wrote a wealth of new material, both instrumental and vocal. The potpourri of new instrumentals took on the title If I Had A Ship... The song collection found its own title, Set Free. After his return to America, George finished and mixed both projects almost simultaneously. In the spring of 2000, George reconnected with his first love from many years before. Ultimately he moved himself, his studio, and AirBorn out to Alaska to be with her, and there he now resides.

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