

Mp3 Rich Smith - The Giant Forest



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Neo-classical new age solo piano music, with jazz world influences. 10 MP3 Songs NEW AGE: New Age, CLASSICAL: Contemporary Details: THE GIANT FOREST Rich Smith's debut CD, "The Giant Forest," is a solo piano album performed and produced by Rich Smith, inspired by the Giant Forest in Sequoia National Park, California. The recording includes 10 of Rich's best improvisational compositions which were recorded in August 1997 on his Chickering grand piano. The styles of music on the recording are a mixture of neoclassical and new age with a bit of world music and jazz influences. TRACK LISTING: 1. Giants Dance at Midnight 6:14 2. Song of the Kaweah 4:34 3. The Loveable Chipmunk 2:00 4. The Soaring Hawk 8:02 5. The Crying Spirit 5:00 6. Sequoian Peace 6:37 7. The Raging Fire 6:21 8. Trees Love the Rain 5:53 9. General Sherman Speaks 7:21 10. Reflections 1* 9:45 CD total playing time is 62 minutes. The CD was remastered in May of 1999. *Reflections 1 P 1987 Rich Smith; all others P 1997 Rich Smith / Rich Smith Music (ASCAP). REVIEWS: 'I enthusiastically recommend "The Giant Forest," by Rich Smith. The first time I heard Rich Smith perform live in Los Angeles, I wondered how it was possible to evoke such passion with a keyboard. After two years of listening, I still don't understand how he does it. Needless to say, Rich Smith is an extraordinarily gifted artist who is easily one of the most important talents to appear in this century. This album is a wonderful celebration of life. It's delicious textures are filled with impassioned images that float effortlessly through the mind. If you truly love someone, this music will harmonize the soul of music in your hearts and minds. Give it to someone you really care about.' John Pash, Los Angeles, CA 'If you love piano and nature, you would love this one... I bought "The Giant Forest" from Rich after I heard his performance. I liked it so much that I bought another one and presented it as a gift to my dearest friend. Listening to the great pieces, I can close my eyes and almost see the forest stretching right in front me. The great inspiration from the soaring hawk, the

tenderness and peace from the little chipmunk, are only examples how Rich's music can really touch one's heart. I love it and I strongly recommend it to anyone who has a heart for great piano and for great nature...' Sharon Ling, Clarksville, MD 'WOW --- I want more. I first heard Rich in a street musician concert in the Santa Monica area. I was completely taken by his improv that I stood and listened for over an hour. I bought his CD when he was done, thinking this will probably be OK. --- Boy was I surprised. The CD is so incredibly emotional and dramatic. I play it over and over and have become very familiar with the pieces. What talent! What ability to evoke and communicate! I want more!' Ed Glass, Elkhart, IN 'Ladies and gentlemen; Rich Smith is Unique and unparalleled. It is easy to hear the influence of giants of piano music like Beethoven (a nature lover) and Liszt (a virtuoso) in Rich Smith's CD. The harmonies and structure more closely resemble Classical music than the pointless wanderings of new age music. His music commands your attention and allows you to be carried away in its beauty (Chopin), fiery passion (Beethoven) and amazing technique (Liszt). This CD should be listened to fully consciously; not as background filler, but in relaxed concentration. (glass of wine, low light, loved one etc.) Having had the pleasure of performing with Rich, I can vouch for his individual improvisational style, his technique (his ability to read music, unlike most new age piano players) and his effortless creativity. We all look forward to a 2nd, 3rd ...CD.' David Van Mersbergen, Atlanta, GA 'Simply Beautiful Music. I love this CD! I received it as a gift and am so amazed by the simple beauty evoked by Rich Smith and his piano. Rich has a love for music that can be clearly heard and felt with every note. I highly recommend this to anyone who considers themselves a fan of music!' Katelynne, Seattle, WA 'VERY NICE MUSIC. A very fine music, to listen alone, or together with a friend or a girlfriend. Great. It's a very special gift!' Dietmar Poernbacher, Brixen I , Italy 'Beethoven would be humbled..... Rich Smith is a genius with a heart of gold and both qualities can be easily heard if you listen to "The Giant Forest." My only challenge with his CD is that I occasionally have to buy a new one because I play it so often. The fact that Rich improvises so much of his music blows my mind away because every note he plays sounds incredibly well planned and richly practiced. The Giant Forest (in addition to anything else Rich produces) is truly candy for your ears.' Julia Pegler, Malibu, CA 'Excellent music! Bought the "Giant Forest" in January 99, its so far the only CD in my 10 disk changer which I never had to replace - you can hear it over and over-its just great music: a must have!' Peter Roggla, Innsbruck, Austria RICH SMITH Rich Smith has enchanted audiences with his impressive piano and vocal performances since the age of 6. His effortless, improvisational style of

playing and his passion for music are currently drawing much attention. His repertoire is varied and extensive, including classical, jazz, blues, new age, traditional, and original songs and compositions. His solo piano CD's, THE GIANT FOREST, PIANO SAMPLER WITH A RICH TWIST, 3rd STREET IMPROV, and AUGUST SKY, have received much critical acclaim. Rich grew up in Wellesley, Massachusetts and joined the U.S. Air Force in 1989. It was during this time that he won the AF's Worldwide Talent Competition and was selected to become a pianist for the Air Force's renowned "Tops in Blue", performing with Bob Hope and receiving standing ovations all over the world. This international tour included shows in the United States, Italy, Japan, Germany, Greece, Spain, Romania and the United Kingdom. Upon honorary completion of his four year enlistment, Rich attended Berklee College of Music in Boston. He graduated in 1996 and moved to Los Angeles, California to pursue his career as a performer and composer. Since that time, he has written several musical scores, including the soundtrack for the independent film, LOAVES. Excerpts from his music have been featured in several television commercials. Rich's talents are extensive. As an instrumentalist he plays piano, keyboards, guitar, clarinet, saxophone, and electric bass. The sounds of his piano music have graced such clients as the Producers Guild of America, Premiere Radio Networks, and Sony Pictures Entertainment. He owns and operates his own recording studio, which was designed by him. He tunes and maintains his own concert grand pianos, and client pianos. Rich has provided services for recordings of acclaimed session pianists Terry Trotter (Natalie Cole, "Everybody Loves Raymond"), Ron Feuer (Ernie Watts, Diana Ross, Elvis Presley, Gary Burton), George Cables (Sonny Rollins, Dizzy Gillespie, Sarah Vaughn), Tamir Hendelman (Jeff Hamilton Trio), Mark Le Vang (Frank Marocco, Tony Galla), and others. With a creative eye for art passed on from his talented and successful mother, Lee Gorman Smith, Rich is also a graphic designer for his own projects and for many independent fellow musicians including Ron Sorensen produced by Charles Floyd (conductor of over 500 orchestras with such artists as K.D. Lang and Patti LaBelle). When Rich is not at work composing, recording, designing or tuning, he can often be seen performing in the Los Angeles area, trying out new material on unsuspecting crowds. Rich was quoted in the LA Times by Joseph Hanania: "My soul feels like a freight train, pushing me to do the music.... There are some things I don't have to question, I just know. Music is one of them. Even if I lost my hands, I'd find a way to play."

QUOTES ABOUT RICH SMITH 'From the first time I watched Rich Smith perform, it's so memorable and unforgettable that the impact lasted. It's like when you see a movie and it stays with you for a lifetime. His

music possesses a very strong sense of melodic flow, though improvised, as if it was played many times before. I've never seen anything like it. It's soaring, mesmerizing, amazing!' Guy Marshall, Los Angeles Producer 'Rich Smith is an exemplary pianist/composer whose music excites me with every stroke of the keys. His music is varied and wonderful. Go see him!' Mark Ferber, Los Angeles Philharmonic Association 'Rich Smith has the ability to move audiences with his improvisations like I've never seen before!' Paul Tavenner, Los Angeles Producer

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