

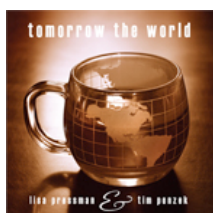
The Sounding Board by R J Lannan

RJ Lannan is the reviewer for The Sounding Board.

Other reviews from The Sounding Board by R J Lannan:

- *tomorrow the world* by Lisa Pressman, reviewed by RJ Lannan on 11/14/2008
- *Secret Voyage* by Blackmore's Night, reviewed by RJ Lannan on 11/10/2008
- *Cartographer* by E.S. Posthumus, reviewed by RJ Lannan on 11/2/2008

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tomorrow the world
By Lisa Pressman & Tim Ponzek

Label: Opus Fromus

tomorrow the world tracks

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Garden Path | 8. Secret Poodle Dance |
| 2. The Way Around | 9. No Wonder |
| 3. Forever And A Day | 10. Awaken To A Dream |
| 4. Wide Open Spaces | 11. Mission At Tumacacori |
| 5. A Drink From A Waterfall | 12. De Pura Casualidad |
| 6. Tomorrow The World | 13. Sudden Mercy |
| 7. One Small Step | 14. The Happy Hipster |

Global Ambitions

Pianist and composer **Lisa Pressman** and guitarist **Tim Ponzek** return with a new album called **Tomorrow the World**. It is not what you think. There are no ruthless plans here for world domination or any mad scientists involved. **Tomorrow the World** is a contemporary recording embedded with a simple hope that the planet would be healed from its woes and tribulations by the positive power of music. One person at a time.

Pressman & Ponzek's music is different as every cut is a surprise. Sometimes you might hear something akin to smooth jazz, on occasion there are ethnic flavors and at other times contemporary music comes from their piano and guitar. On **Tomorrow the World** they are accompanied by a few friends that make the music more substantial. They include **Ivan Katz** and **Joe Garcia** on percussion, **Bob Lashier** on bass, **Todd Chuba** on drums and **Allen Amos** on violin and violira. Violira is Allen Ames' invention that has a sound between a viola and a cello. Together with Pressman's distinctive vocals they make an enjoyable modern ensemble.

The opening number is **Garden Path**. Warm, sunny and bright is the sense. Lisa's piano and echoing vocals make an atmosphere of things fresh and green with a promise of bloom. The path maybe a bit worn, but every meandering is an adventure. You never know what can be found around the corner. Take a chance.

Driving from Sedona, Arizona to the edge of the Grand Canyon last year really taught me about **Wide Open Spaces**. A lot of movement and a lot of space. There is movement in this piece. Steady and harmonious with the desert sun behind you and the vast distance ahead. The cliffs make shadows on the land as you top the rises and travel onward. This music encourages you to keep going, never give up and be hopeful of the rewards only found at the end of your journey.

The title tune, **Tomorrow the World** has a lot of vibrant energy that is channeled in many directions almost like rays of the sun. Perhaps it is that energy that we seek in our daily lives that gets us through, moves us on and pushes us just a bit further. Today we control our own world and tomorrow...

Strong strings, perhaps Allen's violira, opens the tune [One Small Step](#). Lisa's vocal is particularly clear and Tim's guitar is lovely as the tune takes on a fantasy waltz theme. This is a song full of hope. It is gentle reminder to take life one step at a time. Before you know it, you are there despite the drawbacks and the non-believers.

One of the outstanding tracks on **Tomorrow the World** is called [Mission at Tumacocari](#). As we would expect there is warm, Spanish guitar, but with Lisa's piano and angelic crooning, the song exudes the excitement of a history that is three hundred years in the making. Tumacocari is the land of the Pimas, or the Akimel O'Odham tribe of Southwest Arizona, perhaps the direct descendants of the Aztecs. It is the place where Padre Francisco Kino, famous explorer, mapmaker and Jesuit priest set up one of many missions that were pivotal in the culture that lasts even to this day. I guess that if anything the song reminds us that from very humble materials come great things.

I fell for the title before I even heard the song, but [Sudden Mercy](#) is my favorite. It is one of Lisa's smooth jazz pieces that borders on the contemporary. What a wonderful sentiment. What if we suddenly forgive someone and bask in the consequences? For me giving forgiveness was one of the most unburdening acts I ever undertook and it somehow made me stronger. Forgiveness is the most difficult action to take in any situation. Nevertheless, it is without a doubt the most compassionate and the most human.

After listening to **Tomorrow the World** several times I realized where it was going and I decided to go along. The process of healing is an individual one. Each soul, each heart must find the path that brings them to peace. What better music then, to give us direction. This is music with a message.

Rating: Very Good 

- reviewed by RJ Lannan on 11/14/2008

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