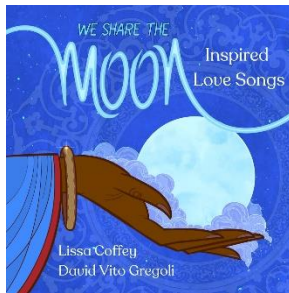


Lissa Coffey & David Vito Gregoli

We Share the Moon - Inspired Love Songs

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Following up their amazing collaboration *Song Divine: The Bhagavad Gita Rock Opera* **Lissa Coffey** and **Vito Gregoli** offer up their latest work **We Share the Moon**. The overall message is one of love. A positive affirmation of this is clear in the lyrics of the main title. “*No one in this world is a stranger. We share the moon and the sky.*” This joyful concerted effort is a convergence of western and Eastern concepts that make the music new, fun, and exciting. A number of vocalists appear on the album including, and get ready, it’s quite a list, Leela Ladnier, Donna De Lory, N. Nicole Gilbert, Geoffrey Gordon, Vishvambhar Sheth who appeared on *Song Divine*, and Venu Bhanot and instrumentalists Cooper Ladnier and Pankaj Mishra.

Written All Over Your Face is a eastern/western hip-hop number with a lot of energy and sung by Leela. The lyric suggests that when the going gets tough, the tough needs to take charge of their life.

“It’s your light to shine.

This is your time.

It’s your voice to bring.

It’s your song to sing.”

I have to admit this opening number surprised me, but it eventually won me over. The song is fun and catchy and one that makes you bob your head and it possess a familiar pop flair, but with a gentle mic drop.

The title tune **We Share the Moon** has a soft, sultry intro. This is one of Ladnier’s best vocals on the album. The theme suggests that no matter where we are on our planet we always have something in common. Having something in common gives us a way to have a dialogue. The music is tender and heartfelt with elements of tabla, fretless bass, and gentle chorus.

One of the songs, **I Surrender** did not resonate with me. The background track was punchy, but the vocal was a bit pitchy. The theme of surrendering to a higher power is apparent, but the repetitive chorus was taxing for me as a listener.

Listen is an ultra-soft pop tune with the sweet, notable voice of Natalie Nicole Gilbert. Bright Romanian Bouzouki sparkles in the melody with a warm flow of bass in the background and the echoing refrain was enjoyable. The lyrics suggest that listening to the voice inside is one of the ways to find the answers. This is my favorite on *We Share the Moon*.

Something in Between, again featuring Leela Ladnier, is a heartfelt prayer with the lyrics taken from the poetry of Swami Vivekananda, a 19th century religious leader and philosopher and the Chandogya Upanishad, a sacred set of documents and part of the poetic and chants-focused themes of the Samaveda. The vocal track is almost blissful with Leela's voice baby-like soft and with lyrics coming out like a hymn. There is some beautiful lyrical poetry here.

*"It's not Night or daytime, it's all the light we see.
It's not joy or sorrow, but something in between."*

I found **All I Thought Was Mine** one of the most fascinating tunes on the album. The up tempo ballad is a wonderful story song with a remarkable vocal by Leela with an assist from Geoffrey Gordon. The always mystical sitar and sharp percussion complement the tune with the well-produced melody driving the theme of holding on what we have, even if it is the smallest awareness of knowledge inside.

Other songs include Net of Love, Krishna Govinda, Like Ambrosia, and Maha Mantra. I liked the album for its entertaining, thoughtful blending of philosophies. Eastern rhymes and poetry balanced with western music makes the album interesting without too much complication. On We Share the Moon Coffey and Gregoli show once again that when they team up they can create attention-grabbing musical scenarios for all to enjoy. - R J Lannan, ArtisanMusicReviews.com