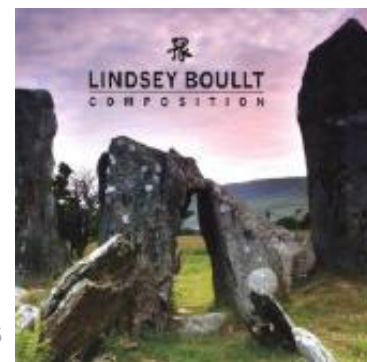


LINDSEY BOULLT

"Composition" (Self-produced; 2007)

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Reviewed by Christopher J. Kelter



I'll never get tired of listening to instrumental music. I'll never forget the days in the '80s when instrumental rock albums and the guitarists that made such an impression on the guitar playing youth. Out of the blue comes Lindsey Boullt's "Composition." Even after one listen it was easy to say that "Composition" is another album that can join the upper echelon of albums that I consider my favorites in the instrumental rock genre.

Although each of the ten tracks of "Composition" are worth expounding on in great detail, I've picked three tracks for the purpose of properly describing the album. Disc opener "Page Revisited" reminds me of what Tony MacAlpine can do – this track is particularly moody with a seductive Arabian melody and mid-paced groove. "Bravo Davo del Torre," which closes out the first half of the CD, is a sturdy rocker with a progressive edge that shows how important original songwriting is in instrumental rock. "Cleopatra's Third Eye" closes out the disc in dramatic fashion – the track manages to combine progressive rock and jazzy/neo-classical styles in an intoxicating blend that has an air of mystery.

Lindsey Boullt is able to draw from many various styles to bring shades of color and light to his songs. The sound of "Composition" leans heavily toward Middle Eastern melodies and the flamenco style – it results in a fresh sounding album. It reminds me of the huge impression that the neo-classical fusion instrumental rockers had back in the late '80s (Vinnie Moore and Tony MacAlpine in particular).

On numerous tracks Boullt displays an ability to play at rapid speed – just check out YouTube and you'll see that this guy could probably substitute in DragonForce if needed. But he doesn't exhibit his speedy playing all the time – it is used to great effect only if the song calls for it.

