

Keiko Matsui - The Road...(2011)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Secret Pond* (5:01)
2. *Falcon's Wing* (4:47)
3. *Nguea Wonja* (4:06) [play](#)
4. *Bohemian Concerto* (5:20)
5. *Embrace & Surrender* (4:46)
6. *Awakening [feat. Kirk Whalum]* (5:29)
7. *Touching Peace* (4:46)
8. *Affirmation [feat. Kirk Whalum]* (6:00)
9. *The Road? [feat. Jackiem Joyner]* (4:28) [play](#)

Keiko Matsui: acoustic piano; Vinnie Colauta: drums (1, 5, 6, 8); Reggie Hamilton: bass (1, 5, 6, 8); Heigo Yokouchi: arrangement, programming, synthesizers (1) Mauricio Zottarelli: drums (2, 3, 7); Richard Bona: arrangement, bass, guitar, vocals, percussion (2, 3, 7); MB Gordy: drums, percussion (4); Eric Baines: bass (4, 9); Frank Marocco: accordion (4); Alberto De Almar: flamenco guitar (4); Peter Kent: violin (4); Sharon Jackson: violin (4); Cameron Stowe: cello (4); Gary Stockdale: arrangement; James Hara: guitar (5, 6, 8); Derek Nakamoto: arrangement, Hammond B3, synthesizers (5, 6, 8, 9); Kirk Whalum: saxophone (6, 8); Satnam Ragotra: percussion (6, 8, 9); Chad Wright: drums (9); Kay-Ta Matsuno: guitar, dulcimer; Jackiem Joyner: saxophone (9).

“Keiko Matsui is beyond category,” states Danny Weiss, VP of Jazz A&R for Shanachie Entertainment. “She is a great jazz player, of course, but her music has such strong classical, world and new age influences that the result is truly unique. But it is in her compositions that Keiko’s genius outshines all others – her amazing melodies are simply breathtaking!”

The Road... is Keiko Matsui’s first new recording in four years and a follow-up to her acclaimed 2007 South African inspired Moyo, which features Hugh Masakela among others. “It is unusual for me to have such a long space between my albums so when I started recording this CD it

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was like a miracle,” says Keiko. “It is also the first time that I invited my band members from the road who have been going through my survival tour!” The Road... is a riveting collection of timeless, passionate, cathartic, emotional and exotic melodies, lush harmonies and global rhythms. “I have been constantly on the go touring and supporting my family,” shares the strikingly beautiful and introspective single mother of two. “When I started this project I spent a lot of time reflecting on the soul and where it comes from. I am on a new journey and have come this far and I still find that this life is wonderful...even the challenges create a beautiful tapestry and the road continues...” Keiko’s soul searching includes the ethereal shape-shifting title track, which exemplifies her ability and brings to mind some of the brilliance heard in great cinematic scores.

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