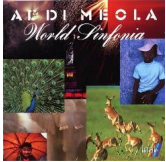


Al Di Meola – World Sinfonia (1990)

Written by bluesever

Sunday, 01 April 2012 19:48 - Last Updated Sunday, 13 July 2014 20:32

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1 "Perpetual Emotion " (Al Di Meola) – 3:30 2 "Orient Blue" (Di Meola) – 2:57 3 "Tango Suite Part 1" (Ástor Piazzolla) – 8:49 4 "Tango Suite Part 3" (Piazzolla) – 8:50 5 "Falling Grace" (Steve Swallow) – 4:21 6 "Last Tango for Astor" (Di Meola) – 6:20 7 "No Mystery" (Chick Corea) – 12:37 8 "Lustrine" (Dino Saluzzi) – 9:12 9 "Little Cathedral" (Di Meola, Augustin Barrios) – 1:45 10 "La Cathedral" (Barrios) – 4:37 Personnel: Al Di Meola – guitars, percussion Chris Carrington – guitars Arto Tunçboyacıyan – percussion, vocals Gumbi Ortiz – percussion, conga Dino Saluzzi – Bandoneón

Comparing early Al di Meola dates like *Land of the Midnight Sun* and *Casino* to his albums of the 1990s, it's clear how much his playing has softened. The exceptional *World Sinfonia*, an entirely acoustic CD, makes it clear that what hasn't changed is his unpredictable, spontaneous nature. Di Meola's right-hand man throughout this highly introspective date is the soulful bandonean player Dino Saluzzi, with whom he enjoys an undeniably strong rapport. A long-time lover of world music, di Meola incorporates South American, Spanish, and Middle Eastern elements, and makes Argentine tango a very high priority. The improviser's reverence for Argentina's musical heritage is especially evident on Astor Piazzolla's haunting "Tango Suite" and di Meola's soul-bearing ode to the tango legend, "Last Tango for Astor." But *World Sinfonia*'s standout track and most pleasant surprise of all is a 12-minute interpretation of Chick Corea's 1975 Return to Forever classic "No Mystery," which works quite well in an acoustic setting. --- Alex Henderson, [allmusic.com](#)

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