

Yusef Lateef - Nocturnes (1989)

Written by bluesever

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1 *Warm Intensity* 4:45 2 *Estuary* 2:34 3 *Indefinite Expansion* 2:34 4 *Closed Space* 5:12 5 *Compassion Duration* 4:56 6 *Visible Particles* 2:33 7 *While On Earth* 4:50 8 *Elementary Substance* 4:30 9 *Soft Light* 1:49 10 *Life Property* 2:39 11 *Luminous Energy* 2:37 12 *Essential Element* 5:27 Yusef Lateef - Casio, Ensoniq, Flutes, Keyboards, Oboe, Piano, Sax (Tenor) Christopher Salvo - Clarinet, Guest Artist Hugh Schick - Flugelhorn, Horn Patrick Tucker - French Horn

Yusef Lateef has always sought to extend the boundaries of musical expression. Continuing his quest for new vistas in jazz, Yusef Lateef's 1989 release NOCTURNES is a subtle, even brooding, musical project that uses sound colors and stark musical landscapes to create, above all else, a sense of darkness and nighttime. This music is largely programmatic. In fact, NOCTURNES is probably best summed up as a modern tone poem. The writing is gloomy and ominous, dissonant and angular. Yet, each track retains a distinctly gentle and placid disposition. Trumpeter Hugh Schick plays with a rich, full bodied and legato approach throughout and Lateef's own flute playing is often quite heartrending as he soliloquizes over his own piano and keyboard playing.

NOCTURNES is a perfect CD for late nights or dreary afternoons, Lateef and crew challenge our ears to enter into a world that is at once desolate and austere, yet pretty and serene. In short, this is mood music at its best. Highlights include "Compassion Duration" and "Warm Intensity." ---AllMusic Review

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