

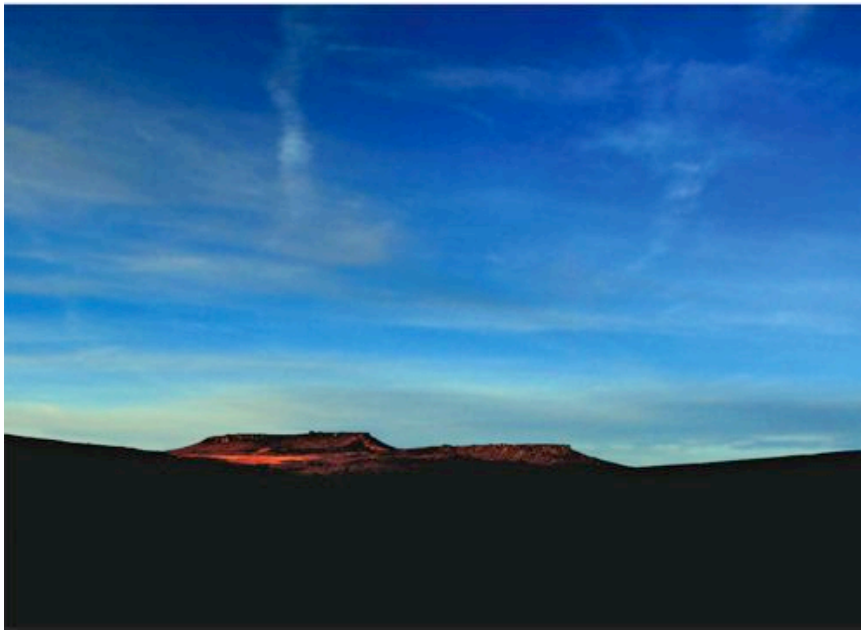
CATHEDRAL OF DREAMS Nick Fletcher

Solo Guitar Works Volume 1, Iberian Fantasy for Guitar and Orchestra (Bainbridge / Fletcher)

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Nick Fletcher Cathedral of Dreams



Solo Guitar Works Volume 1
Iberian Fantasy for Guitar and Orchestra (Bainbridge/Fletcher)

open sky



We would like to introduce you to the music of Nick Fletcher with this, our latest release on Open Sky Records. Nick is an incredibly talented guitarist, improviser and composer of music for solo guitar as well as a very respected guitar teacher in his home town of Sheffield, England. We are thrilled to have this first album of Nick's own solo guitar compositions included in the Open Sky / Voiceprint catalogue. The album features 11 of Nick's solo guitar compositions plus 'Iberian Fantasy', a 24 minute long Guitar 'Concerto' co-written and orchestrated by Nick and Dave Bainbridge.



The past seven months have seen Nick beginning to receive the acclaim he deserves, with the first two volumes of his solo guitar works published by the prestigious Canadian Classical guitar publishers Les Productions D'OZ and a new work 'Tres Danzas' to be published by them soon. Tracks from 'Cathedral of Dreams' have been receiving airplay around the world, including on the UK's most popular 'classical' station Classic FM during the summer months. The album is also receiving some very favourable reviews, both within the classical music world and far beyond even including Metal Hammer magazine!



Press Reaction

“Recorded in the beautiful natural acoustic of St Luke’s Church, Holton Le Moor, the recording quality is excellent, capturing the warmth of Nick Fletcher’s lyrical and expressive playing. Eleven original solo compositions, from the bustling and vigorous opening, ‘Brasilia’, to the evocative title track, showcase Fletcher’s considerable compositional and improvisational talent..... ‘Iberian Fantasy for Guitar and Orchestra’ is a bold and imaginative fusion of improvisations with orchestral interludes.”

Steve Gordon - Acoustic Guitar Magazine 10/09



“A talented guitarist and composer of music for solo guitar, this is Nick’s first CD release of his own solo compositions. Featuring a range of influences from [Baroque](#) to traditional music from the Hebridean islands, the highlight is ‘Iberian Fantasy’ - a 24 minute long [Guitar](#) Concerto which is the perfect soundtrack for the summer months. Listen out for this album on [Smooth Classics](#) and [Relaxing Classics](#) over the next few weeks.”

Sam Jackson - Classic FM 7/09

GUITAR WORKS volume 2, for solo guitar by Nick Fletcher

“The six pieces in this album are taken from his latest CD recording titled Cathedral of Dreams, which disc also includes his first guitar concerto written in collaboration with Dave Bainbridge and called Iberian Fantasy. The music contained in this second volume of his works does what the appetite for hearing the new recording: the style is of a contemporary, easy-listening flavour, a little “folky” here and there and concluding with an attractive latin-flavoured piece. I personally found these works very appealing...For higher grade players looking for new, interesting and attractive material to add to their repertoire this album is well worth checking out.”

Steve Marsh (Classical Guitar Magazine) 9/09

“Classical guitarist Nick Fletcher is a rare talent, a gifted guitarist with a unique style that mixes urgency with deep contemplation. His album Cathedral of Dreams is a beautiful album of original solo guitar compositions. Fletcher’s nimble fingers coax both beautiful melodies and breathtaking riffs from guitar. His precise and smooth playing on songs like the fast-paced “The Clap”-like Cornucopia or the lyrical Sirocco makes Steve Howe sound clumsy and unrefined. Other tunes like Visage weave a South American dance influence with gorgeous flamenco stylings. The four part epic finale, Iberian Fantasy for Guitar and Orchestra, features spontaneous duets between Nick and producer [Dave Bainbridge](#) on keyboards, augmented by flute and timpani. All four parts are lovely, and really highlight Fletcher’s talent as an improviser. Instrumental albums are often a mood setter or relegated to background music. Cathedral of Dreams is a mood elevator that will continually draw itself into the foreground. You cannot help but engage with Nick Fletcher’s beautifully haunting technique and melodies. Highly recommended for fans of Phil Keaggy, Dave Bainbridge, Steve Howe, and Christopher Parkening.”

Dave Taylor - www.spiritualprog.com 6/09

A striking performance and a highly creative, memorable hour-plus series of soundscapes.

Tom Lennie - Cross Rhythms 9/09

"I feel very humble and privileged to have the opportunity to review Nick Fletcher's Cathedral of Dreams.... Instantly, the listener is being projected in the relaxing and contemplative work of this British virtuoso. Nick Fletcher's grasp on this instrument is impressive, outstanding and simply amazing.... I was absolutely stunned and speechless with such crafty execution, precision and fluidity.... Needless to say that you won't find any bad compositions on this CD. Lots of great moments are just waiting the neo-classical fanatic."

Dennis Brunells - Sea of Tranquility website, USA 8/09

Background

After being inspired by guitarists such as Steve Hackett, Jan Akkerman and Steve Howe, Nick took up playing the Classical Guitar and after watching Christopher Nupen's Documentary about the legendary Classical Guitarist Andres Segovia, he started to become more serious about the instrument.

Nick subsequently studied the Classical Guitar for 3 years with David Taplin at Huddersfield School of Music where he also became interested in the music of guitarists such as Ralph Towner and Bill Connors and started to write some music for the instrument. After playing in various bands in different musical genres Nick started to do many sessions for various companies and artists. By the mid 1990's Nick decided that playing the solo Classical Guitar was to become the main focus of his musical activities.

Nick then recorded three highly acclaimed solo CDs of meditational music on the Classical Guitar for Kingsway Music and recorded an album of Lullabies for Classical Guitar for Dorling Kindersley. Becoming more involved in record production in the mid 1990's, Nick also produced five Celtic music recordings. Nick also started to give many recitals of the Classical Guitar but writing music for the Guitar started to become his consuming passion out of which the CD 'Cathedral of Dreams' was born.

Nick has now written over 50 compositions for the Classical Guitar and currently divides his time between teaching guitar, performing solo recitals of music from the Classical repertoire mixed with his own compositions, and writing more music for the guitar. Recent recitals have included Sheffield Cathedral and Christchurch Oxford.

For more info on Nick and to hear extracts from the album and see videos of Nick playing, visit:

www.myspace.com/nickfletcherguitarist

OPEN SKY RECORDS - CONTACT Dave Bainbridge - opensky1@btopenworld.com / tel: 01652 678065

Cathedral of Dreams and all other Open Sky records releases are available from the Iona website secure store

www.drshosting.co.uk/iona/

Worldwide distribution by Voiceprint

www.voiceprint.co.uk

Photos on page 1 taken during the album recording sessions at St Luke's, Holton Le Moor, Lincolnshire