

Takeshi Asai, the Japanese jazz pianist who has been developing his musical career with a great success in New York, this summer released his 10th CD album.

This time, after many acoustic solo projects or fabulous albums recorded with his own New York and French trio, Takeshi has returned to an electronic project, which is in a way a follow-up to his "Le Projet Electrique" album from 2016.

Just like his first album of electronic music, "The Electric Project Vol. 2" refers to important figures and events in the life of an extraordinary and incredibly sensitive musician.

Both the form of the material and its content are strongly related to the outbreak of a pandemic that hit the world with monstrous force, bringing incredible losses. One of the greatest losses the artist was forced to suffer was the death of his friend, the great French double bassist - Marc Peillon, who had offered Takeshi a series of concerts together, not realizing that they plan would be thwarted by his death... It was him, Marc Peillon, for whom Takeshi wrote and dedicated the most beautiful, most elaborate piece on the album, the three-part Requiem that is the axis of the entire album.

The album consists of 15 original compositions, written and played by Takeshi. The huge electronic project, realized with great panache, also includes acoustic fragments. Takeshi plays: drums, guitar, bass and keyboards. He also used software, programming in DAW Logic X, Ableton Suite 10, Izotope, Native Instruments and Arturia Analog Lab V.

Not for the first time Takeshi has shown his great versatility both in terms of his skills as a multi-instrumentalist (let's not forget that the Artist runs his own music school in New York, being an Educational Partner of Steinway & Sons), but also as a sound engineer, having at his disposal his own, richly equipped, beautiful recording studio.

As a result, we got a diverse album in terms of genre, style and emotions, where dance, house and drum'n'bass meet in a wonderful symbiosis with contemplative music, traditional acoustic sound or experimental music. Above all, it is the essence of what we love most in jazz: extended, beautiful improvisations, unusual grooves, fine melodies and a very innovative approach.

As an artist, Takeshi is also involved in film and theater music, which is clearly audible in the extremely colourful and deeply illustrative approach to the music on "The Electric Project Vol. 2". However, the compositions which make up the discussed album are also a fantastic tribute to the power and beauty of classical music, great fun with club music, hidden quotes or fantastic poetry woven between the notes. In a word: all the richness of the soul and incredible talent of a musician who can become a real orchestra, giving his solo musical expression so many voices and richness of sound that many a powerful ensemble can only dream of.

Track listing: 1. "*Thralldom Jazz Dance*"/ 2. "*The Second Song*"/ 3. "*I Say It's All Right*"/ 4. "*Son Ange*"/ 5. "*Une Autre*"/ 6. "*Hardly in a Morning Sunrise*"/ 7. "*L'Extension*"/ 8. "*Three Dirges - Part I*"/ 9. "*Three Dirges - Part II*"/ 10. "*Three Dirges - Part III*"/ 11. "*Haruka Mukashi*"/ 12. "*Soundtrack*"/ 13. "*Hope 2.0*"/ 14. "*December*"/ 15. "*Hidamari*".

The album was released in New York on July 1, 2021, on the Fono Bono Records label.