

SLIM PROFILE

review by Hans-Bernd Hülsmann
Smooth-Jazz.de

Dimitri Kovachev a.k.a. Dimitri K is hailing from Sofia, Bulgaria, where he was very active in the 80's. Now he works as a music composer, producer and publisher, with a recording production studio in Orlando, Central Florida.

He has already released several smooth jazz albums, among them So Intensified (2016), Silence (2017) and Slim Profile (2017). The latter is dedicated to late jazz musician Harry Hall, who played on his compositions soprano, alto and tenor sax, clarinet and flute.

You have to bring some time, if you listen to Slim Profile. Because this album does not deal with smooth jazz in the traditional sense. The title song starts like a score of a film noire with the atmosphere of a Parisian café featuring an electric guitar in the lead performing careful chords accompanied by a saxophone underlining the melancholy.

The next song entitled Mystique, the French word for mystic renews the connection of electric guitar and sax, wherein the soprano saxophone loses in almost oriental cascades. Undisclosed is a strange title for a strange composition which can not decide in which musical direction it should go.

On Unwind the electric guitar paires with bass and sax. Somehow shy also a woman's voice ventured forth. Call Me Up likewise prefers the quieter sounds with the ease of a summer morning. Wanna Be gives me reason to go more intensively to the playing style of the guitar. In some way the electric guitar evokes memories of the 50s and 60s. In between the melodic sequence is interrupted by an inflected speech.

You've Got Me approaches stylistically rock music, interspersed with some jazz. Into Your Arms gives itself bluesy. Casual Day is the perfect musical fragrance for a nonchalant appearance. Disengaged takes the melancholy in all its nuances to the main theme. Second Time tends to some encouragement.

Chillout Lounge appears as a title rather misleading. It's all about feelings. Although the world is generally becoming more violent, RSVP serves a peaceful finish of the album.

With Slim Profile Dimitri K. puts his own concept of smooth jazz against the mainstream. Will the audience hear his contribution? In any case he deserves a prize for originality and personality.