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CD Review - Asaf Sirkis Trio - Shepherd's Stories

## Asaf Sirkis Trio - Shepherd"s Stories

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"Shepherd"s Stories" is the follow up to 2010"s "Letting Go", by Israeli jazz fusion drummer Asaf Sirkis, he is joined by Yaron Stavi on bass and Tassos Spiliotopoulos on guitars.

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The album carries on where "Letting Go" left of but this time around the band take on a more plaintive tone, considering jazz fusion is not know for it"s emotional impact this album stands out from the rest. It"s not necessarily a virtuoso show off album (although its does include some amazing playing from the trio) but focuses more on atmosphere and emotional impact, in fact there is a very mellon collie feel to the album, conjuring up forgotten memories and emotions in a very subtle way. In the liner notes Asaf even tells us that the melodies were designed to create feelings of déjà vu and to connect you with something larger than yourself, a forgotten truth or collective consciousness.

Overall the album has a very organic, almost pastoral feel, which sets it apart from others in the jazz fusion genre, highlights are the opener "1801" and the frantic pace of "Dream Sister" where Asaf's tom fills and heavy swing really stand out.

Recommended to any jazz fusion enthusiasts, and of course to any drummers who don"t know of Asaf, well worth checking out.

Available from www.asafsirkis.co.uk

You can hear excerts here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CqRmQpmBhWQ

#### Ashley Hallinan

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