

## **DIGITAL DOWNLOAD ALBUM REVIEW**

**ARTIST:** Michael Jefry Stevens

**TITLE:** Angel's Dance

**LABEL:** Nacht Records



**TUNES:** Underwater Ballet, Rough-Housing, Ancient Quest, Follow the Leader, The Emerging Truth, Little Bitty Ballad, Corresponding Features, Entanglement, Angel's Dance, She's Gone, Autumn's Ballet, Autumn's Ballet, Sandstorm, Chimes For Justin, Sunrise On Pluto, Slanty Blues

**PERSONNEL:** Dom Minasi, Michael Jefry Stevens  
Early 2003

**I've been a fan of Michael's piano/keyboard work for many years now, and have reviewed tuneage from Dom for close to 15 years now. This recording was from 2003, right when**

**Michael was moving south from NYC to Memphis, TN, and gets right on into the improvised groove on the first track, "Underwater Ballet", with some tasty meandering interplay that will do nothing less than astound your ears... this piece aurally demonstrates just how fluid "fluid" can be, and listeners who are in love with freedom of movement will catch that vibe right away. The enchantment continues with the 2:41 "Follow The Leader"... perfect recording and flawless execution on every note as the tune magically segues into the energy-laden "The Emerging Truth". What you realize as you absorb the atmospheres created by these two improvisation masters is that creation is still in our hands... that it's not "all been done**

**before" & that as long as there are musical mergers like Minasi and Stevens, you'll always have something new to look forward to. My personal favorite on the CD is "She's Gone"... improv, yet somehow with shades of melancholy and remembrance; of course, with a total of sixteen tunes, you may find your favorite in one of the other tracks. If you've never listened to piano/guitar improv before, this is a perfect place to start; and if you have, you'll find yourself spinning this one over & over (& over) again. It gets a MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED from me, with an "EQ" (energy quotient) rating of 4.98.**

Dick Metcalf

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