Ravi Shankar & Philip Glass - Passages (1990)
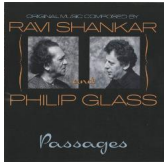
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Ravi Shankar & Philip Glass - Passages (1990)

1 Offering 9:40   2 Sadhanipa 8:31   3 Channels And Winds 7:56   4 Ragas In Minor Scale 7:32   5 Meetings Along The Edge 8:05   6 Prashanti 13:37   Shubho Shankar – sitar Abhiman Kaushal – tabla T. Srinivasan – mridangam Partha Sarathy – sarod, veena Barry Finclair, Karen Karlsrud, Masako Yanagita, Mayuki Fukuhara, Regis Iandiorio,   Sergiu Schwartz, Tim Baker – violin Al Brown, Barry Finclair, Masako Yanagita, Richard Sortomme – viola Batia Lieberman, Beverly Laudrisen, Fred Zlotkin, Seymour Barab – cello Joe Carver – double bass Ronu Mazumdar, Jack Kripl, Theresa Norris – flute Jon Gibson – soprano saxophone Lenny Pickett, Richard Peck – tenor, alto saxophone Peter Gordon, Ron Sell – french horn Alan Raph, Keith O'Quinn – trombone Gorden Gottlieb – percussion Michael Riesman – piano Ravi Shankar, S.P. Balasubramanyam – vocals Jeanie Gagne – voice Madras Choir Orchestral   Ashit Desai, Michael Riesman, Suresh Lalwani – conductor Composed By – Philip Glass (tracks: 2, 3, 4), Ravi Shankar (tracks: 1, 5, 6)

A collaboration between an avant-garde modern classical composer and a traditional Indian/Hindi composer/performer seems as unlikely as ice hockey on the River Styx. However, Passages is a collaboration between Philip Glass and Ravi Shankar and it works quite well. Shankar's smooth style fits nicely with Glass' dissonant orchestrations. There is a great deal of technical data involved here. Both of these artists have long taken intellectual approaches to music. Thus, the liner notes are a bit heavy-handed. The music is brilliant. The symphony dominates the soundscapes, but Shankar's atmospheres are integral to the success of this project. This CD will appeal to fans of John Cage, Terry Riley, and Steve Reich. ---Jim Brenholts, Rovi

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