

Spyro Gyra – A Foreign Affair (2011)

Written by bluesever

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01 – Caribe 02 – Khuda 03 – Sweet Ole Thang [play](#) 04 – Shinjuku 05 – Chileno Boys 06 – Samba For Two 07 – Cancao de Ninar 08 – Falling Walls

[play](#)

09 – Antigua 10 – Last Call 11 – Dancing On Table Mountain

Musicians: Scott Ambush – bass Jay Beckenstein – sax Julio Fernandez – guitar Tom Schuman – keyboards Bonny B - drums

Spyro Gyra started out with the rhythms of the world. From the samba rhythms and Caribbean feel of their early hits to the latest album, they have made it a point to embrace the music of the places they have visited. Their new album, A Foreign Affair, is ready to take you around the world from the Caribbean to South America, and even to South Africa, India and Japan. Besides the memorable instrumentals, there are also three vocal tunes, one of which features Grammy® winning Keb' Mo'. ---Editorial Reviews

Sometimes when you fall in love, you know it from the first embrace. A Foreign Affair is the story of five guys and their love affair with the music of the world. This album from the venerable jazz group Spyro Gyra takes you on a journey to the music closest to them from some places in some cases farthest from them. A Foreign Affair draws from the experiences of an enduring international career, one that has taken them to the far reaches of the globe. It's no secret that Spyro Gyra started out their career with the rhythms of the world.

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musicians have made it a point to embrace the music wherever they go. For instance, not long ago they played shows in New Jersey and Rochester NY but then left the U.S. to perform in Turkey, Germany, Netherlands, Israel, India, Martinique and South Africa. That's in less than one month. That tour is something of what this new album sounds like if you just add in a few more places.

It's a sign of how enduring this band's career is that, thirty-five years after their first album, their four most recent albums were each nominated for a Grammy®. "One of the benefits of being in this band is that our music is popular all over the planet. Inevitably, we experience the local culture and inevitably we absorb some of those influences," explains leader and saxophonist Jay Beckenstein. "The guys and I were talking about what we wanted to do with this record before we started. We decided to make it all about that. We've actually been talking about making this record for years." So, is A Foreign Affair, drawing liberally from the music of the world, a world music album? Beckenstein says not really. "It's more Spyro Gyra being influenced by the world. We're not trying to emulate any musical style in its pure native form. We're not trying to play 'perfect' salsa or traditional Indian music, for instance. Sometimes it means borrowing directly from another style, particularly in the rhythms, but mainly we're flavoring our music with these influences." --- smoothjazzdaily.wordpress.com

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