Ambient Egypt - Sounds from Ancient Sources (1998)



1. Nenchefka's Orchestra

2. Road to Wadi el Hol play

3. Ambient Winds

4. Procession at Thebes play

5. The Banquet

6. Lotus on the Nile

7. Bes

8. Sun Boat Drifting

Performer: Douglas Irvine

Inspired by the ancient Egyptian musical world, Ambient Egypt explores the rich, timeworn sounds of surviving and reconstructed musical instruments. Over 70 minutes of music weave traditional and contemporary elements, evoking the sense of mystery that surrounds ancient Egyptian civilization.

Douglas Irvine obviously loves the sounds these instruments make; he has created a beautiful CD of "New music from ancient Egyptian instruments and surviving instrument specimens." Perfect mood music, perfect meditation music, AND - perfect "white noise" at the office. I bought my original at the Metropolitan Museum and have listened to it at least 300 times since then. I still hear something new everytime I play it. ---Maura Enright

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Douglas Irvine's debut CD, Ambient Egypt features thesoothing and time-worn sounds of the ancient world, with the pulse of today's world music. Composed with rare, ancient Egyptian instrument replicas and survivinginstrument specimens, Ambient Egypt has been featured as soundtrack music for museums internationally. Ambient Egypt has also appeared on numerous public radio programs and remains a best-selling CD at museum venues in the US and Canada.

About the Artist:Douglas Irvine is a composer, sound artist and instrument maker who lives and works in New England. His music and sound work has been featured internationally through museums, art galleries, public radio, film, video and computer-based media. With a background in the musical traditions of ancient Middle Eastern cultures, Doug teaches and lectures about the musical practices of civilizations including ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia.

As a performer, Doug specializes in Middle Eastern percussion instruments including the Arabic tabla and frame drums. He also plays a variety of string and wind instruments from the Near East and Africa. His independent recorded works include the radio documentary, "Lost Sounds of the Nile," his self released CD, "Ambient Egypt," and the natural history recording, "Soundscapes of the Dinosaurs".

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