Roberto Cacciapaglia I – Quarto Tempo (2007)

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1 Tema Celeste 4:07 2 Oceano 4:09 3 Olimpica 3:57 4 Atlantico 3:48 5 Floating 3:24 6 Nuvole Di Luce 3:07 7 How Long 3:33 8 Seconda Navigazione 3:49 9 Sarabanda 3:04 10 Outdoor 4:25 11 Ancient Evenings 2:52 12 Viaggio Di Notte 4:20 Cello [Royal Philharmonic Orchestra] – Chantal Webster, Francois Rive, Karen Stephenson, Roberto Sorrentino Cello – Alexander Zioumbrovsky Conductor – Michele Fedrigotti Contrabass [Royal Philharmonic Orchestra] – Roy Benson Keyboards – Gianpiero Dionigi Oboe – Francesco Quaranta Orchestra – Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Piano [Pianoforte - Steinway & Sons Model D 274 Fabbrini Collection] – Roberto Cacciapaglia Viola [Royal Philharmonic Orchestra] – Andrew Williams (10), Liz Varlow, Helen Kamminga Violin [Primi Violini] – Andrew Klee, Gerald Gregory, Janice Graham, Patrick Savage, Russel Gilbert Violin [Secondi Violini] – Andrew Storey, Clara Biss, Daniel Bhattacharya, Michael Dolan Vocals – Nuria Rial

Roberto Cacciapaglia's album is a warmhearted collection of ballads, each accompanied by orchestra and, as a bonus, also performed for piano solo. There's no doubt that Michael Nyman has an influence on Cacciapaglia, his "Nuvole di Luce" featuring a similar mix of modal folk flavors and contemporary harmonies. Soprano Nuria Rial adds a haunting quality to the stunning "Atlantico" and "How Long," the latter akin to a gorgeous movie soundtrack. Subtle electronic effects add an otherworldly aspect to the start of "Seconda navigazione," but never to the detriment of the purity of the sound. ---itunes.apple.com

His sheer body of work is awe-inspiring and Roberto Cacciapaglia amazes me with his mastery over classicism and modernism in compositions. This magnificent album is yet another feather in his cap. Its hard to single out each track here as all of them are masterpieces in their own right, but I'll try with a few :-) "Tema Celeste" has a brilliant cadence to it. "Oceano" with its

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intensely intricate melody and chord progression is fantastic. I loved the string section which is simply grand! The sweeping sound track quality of "Floating" left me breathless. The second half has lovely piano flourishes, almost like water rushing through rocks :-) The grand "Nuvole di luce" is a study in brilliant composing. A dramatic and high on melody track, this one stayed on my mind long after it got over :-) "Sarabanda" has a flowing and ever changing quality to its tune and has an enchanting vocal element to it which transcended this track to another sphere! Gorgeous!! :-) Roberto Cacciapaglia is a musical genius and his music is felt at a level deeper than one's consciousness. ---Ricky Kej, amazon.com

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