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DVD: Al Di Meola - One of These Nights

Posted by [Triniman](#) on January 15, 2005 02:30 AM (See [all posts by Triniman](#))

Filed under: [Music](#), [Music: Jazz](#) - **Scroll down to read [comments on this story](#) and/or add one of your own.**



[Al Dimeola - One of These Nights](#)

DVD from *Music Video Distribu*
Release date: 15 February, 2005

Al Di Meola - One of These Nights
Long regarded as one of the world's finest guitar players, jazz virtuoso *Al Di Meola* is now entering his 31st year as a recording artist and his new DVD, *One of These Nights*, is his first full-length concert DVD.

Recorded May 17, 2004 at *Scala, in Ludwigsburg, Germany*, the DVD features 11 tracks.

- 01 Innamorata (Al Di Meola) – "Flesh on Flesh", 2002
- 02 Misterio (Al Di Meola) – "The Grand Passion", 2000
- 03 Azzurra (Al Di Meola) – "The Infinite Desire", 1998

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Book: So Help Me God

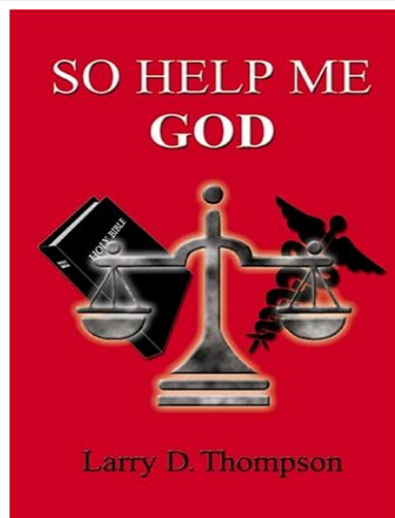
- 04 Orient Blue (Al Di Meola) – “World Sinfonia”, 1993
- 05 Rhapsody of Fire (Al Di Meola) – “Tirami Su”, 1987
- 06 This Way Before (Al Di Meola) – “Orange and Blue”, 1994
- 07 One Night Last June (Al Di Meola) – “Kiss My Axe”, 1991
- 08 Fugatta (Astor Piazzolla) – “Flesh on Flesh”, 2002
- 09 Libertango (Astor Piazzolla) – “The Grande Passion”, 2000
- 10 Beyond the Mirage (Al Di Meola) – “Guitar Trio”, 1996
- 11 Egyptian Danza (Al Di Meola) “Casino”, 1977

The performances all around sparkle and invigorate. Almost every track is cinematic in scope with delicate, quiet acoustic passages interwoven with dynamic, and rigorous workouts with the band, which features *Mario Pamisano* (acoustic piano and synths), *Gumbi Ortiz* (percussion), *Ernie Adams* (drums) and *the Sturcz String Quartet* – *Andras Sturcz* (cello), *Guyla Benko* (viola), *Gabor Csonka* (1st violin) and *Victor Uhzik* (2nd violin.)

The DVD is not slickly produced with an overindulgent number of camera angles. Rather, it's actually more intimate and immediate. Even the stage and light show are akin to what you might see at a small jazz festival, but in no way does it detract from what matters most – letting the music do the talking.

Fusion jazz can be very beautiful and very accessible to most casual music fans, since it can approximate the dramatic romance we often hear in film scores.

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Prettiness alone doesn't make for great jazz, though, and while the band is not designed to mostly improvise, they do cut loose here and there. There's some delightful improvisation between *Di Meola* and *Gumbi Ortiz* where they look at each other and dare the other to play along. You can tell how much fun they had. As the audience applauded, Ortiz looked over to *Di Meola* as if to say, come on, let's keep this going. And they did. It was a welcome change from the other, more structured material.

Check out to satisfying acknowledgments the musicians, particularly *Mario Parmisano*, give to one another and to the audience, at the end of some of the more rollicking tracks.

Di Meola is a fountain gushing forth music. Although he sits during the entire performance, watch as he pops his shoulders ever so gently as he concentrates on his dexterous playing. It's also interesting to hear how he can also make the acoustic guitar sound electric, with his assortment of pedals. *Di Meola* didn't speak very much, but this may have been due to the fact that he was playing to a German audience.

I had the pleasure of seeing *Al Di Meola* in concert in support of the tango-influenced "Heart of the Immigrants" recording with guitarist *Chris Carrington* and percussionist *Arto Tunçboyacıyan*. This DVD brought back some positive memories.

Al Di Meola still flies under the

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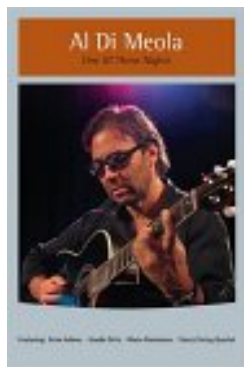
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public's radar, but he deserves every accolade he gets. For jazz / fusion fans, see him live when you can, but in the meantime, get "*One of These Nights*." It's on sale February 15, 2005.

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[Al Dimeola - One of These Nights](#)

DVD from *Music Video Distribu*

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DVD from *Red Distribution, In*
Release date: 16 November, 2004

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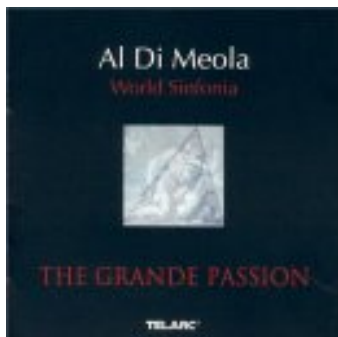
- [bookofjoe](#) (71)
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[Casino](#)

Al Di Meola

Music from
Sony
Release date:
25 February,
1992



[The Grande Passion](#)

Al Di Meola

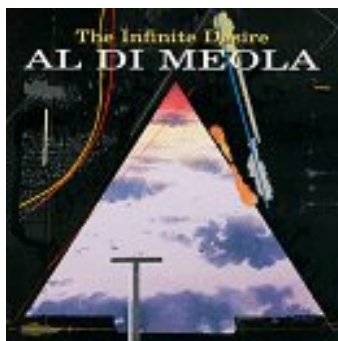
Music from
Telarc
Release date:
24 October,
2000



[Flesh on Flesh](#)

Al Di Meola

Music from
Telarc
Release date:
27 August,
2002



[The Infinite Desire](#)

Al Di Meola

Music from
Telarc
Release date:
25 August,
1998

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Al Dimeola

Music from
One Way
Records Inc
Release date:
18 June, 1996



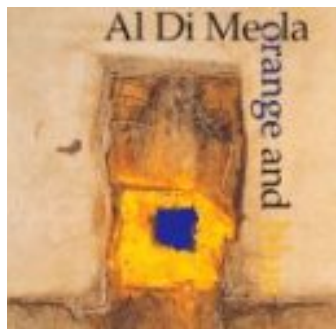
[Kiss My Axe](#)

Al Di Meola
Music from
Rhino Records
Release date:
19 November,
1991



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Al Di Meola
Music from
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Release date:
13 August,
1991



[Orange and Blue](#)

Al Di Meola
Music from
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Music from
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Release date:
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Posted by [Triniman](#) on January 15, 2005
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Comment **1** posted by [godoggo](#) on January 15, 2005 11:37 PM:

I've always liked Al, and I still pull out my old copy of Casino sometimes, but I really really really like the stuff he's been doing in recent years, since he discovered Astor Piazzolla. His music has improved in every way, more creative, more sophisticated, more expressive, deeper.

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