



<http://www.frantikmag.com/08/811/cdnov08.html#erik>

Erik Mongrain

Title: Equilibrium

Label: AlterEgo Musique/Prophase Music

Year: 2008

Rating: ★★★★★

Acoustically blessed and experimentally pleasing, Erik Mongrain's 'Equilibrium' is a wonderful trek into the world of guitar playing. A natural talent from Quebec Canada, Erik serves up some technical fretwork on his latest venture with added nobility and precision. One would really disagree upon the fact that he plays solo but indeed he does. Erik's 'laptapping' style give him the freedom to do adlib runs while holding down the rhythm or melody. This is an impressive style of guitar playing that not many guitar players in the world can do. With that said though, I wondered where all the leads went? For a guy with huge talent on the guitar, this album lacks the guitar leads. I get the whole direction of the album, concentrating on depth of the music instead of the song, but a little bit of guitar leads, even if he had to do a lead without laptapping, would've been just sweet. Aside from that, this album puts you in a state of trance and gives life to surroundings. After watchin a few YouTube videos of Erik, I instantly knew that this guy was the real deal. 'Equilibrium' is for those days where you want to relax while listening to music without words.

Gian Erguiza - October 21, 2008