



***Equilibrium* CD**

Erik Mongrain

If you're anything like me, and you sometimes sit for hours on YouTube checking out videos of guitar heroes like Steve Vai, Eric Johnson, Leo Kottke, and the like getting their jam on, you may have stumbled videos of this French Canadian guy, Erik Mongrain, and said to yourself: "OMG...WTF is he doing with that guitar!?" Playing in a percussive lap style reminiscent of Stanley Jordan, Andy McKee, and Indianapolis native Michael Kelsey, and most recently portrayed in the film *August Rush*, Mongrain weaves an earthy tapestry of alternate tuning and harmonic subtlety that both boggles the mind and soothes it. His mastery of tone and timbre on the instrument is only matched by his mastery of dynamics and the effect a note can have on the human heart and ear. Entirely instrumental and well suited for quiet, pensive evenings or stimulating social gatherings. Grab a bottle of well-aged wine and give this CD a spin. It will set a mood, and you won't be disappointed.

– Brad Linzy Rating: 4