



The Drum Pad's 20th Anniversary Show

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This double disc set documents Drum Pad's 20th anniversary and opens with 53 minutes of melodic drumming, ostinatos and more in a percussive dialogue featuring the Ex-Zappa duo of Terry Bozzio and Chad Wackerman. Canadian jazz master Jeff Hamilton follows, demonstrating melodic drumming of his own, playing several jazz standards on a four-piece jazz kit, showcasing his incredible swinging feel and injecting some humour into the proceedings before displaying excellent brush chops on 'If I Were A Bell' and rounding out his set with a Gene Krupa tribute with 'Sing, Sing, Sing' and a rousing 'Caravan'.

The Indian influenced fusion of saxophonist George Brooks Summit featuring Steve Smith and Zakir Hussain closes disc one with Smith turning in a great solo. Disc two has a definite rock flavour opening with Mike Mangini, displaying some impressive chops (especially his finger control), followed by ex-Smashing Pumpkins drummer Jimmy Chamberlin playing a prog/fusion mix and hitting hard in the context of his trio The Jimmy Chamberlin Complex, before Mike Portnoy closes the show in a Rush tribute band! Bonus tracks include a superb brush duet between Hamilton and Smith on 'Salt Peanuts', a dual-angle version of a Chamberlin track and Mike Mangini's insightful performance notes for his solo. This is a diverse and highly entertaining set. BK

★★★★