

'Heaven on Earth'

Songs of Love, Light and Angels for relaxation, reflection, meditation and illumination.

Featuring Tania de Jong AM (soprano) with Joe Chindamo (composer and pianist) and guest artists including Zoe Black (violinist) and orchestra performing originals and some of the greatest music and songs of all-time.

Heaven on Earth is a classical spiritual recording bringing together the angelic voice of soprano **Tania de Jong** with the virtuosic genius of pianist, composer and arranger **Joe Chindamo**. Also appearing on the album is one of Australia's most acclaimed violinists **Zoe Black**. The album has been recorded with some of Australia's leading musicians.

The album includes originals *Heaven on Earth, Rainbow Shower* and *Peace Om shanti* with compositions by Chindamo and lyrics by de Jong. There are also reinventions of some gorgeous standards including *Summertime, Somewhere* from Westside Story and *La Vie en Rose* and glorious classical reinventions of some of the greatest symphonies and concertos. The recording features the work of Beethoven, Mozart, Faure, Elgar and Dvorák though not always in the way you may expect.

The adaptations of these classic works are powerful reminders of the divine and timeless nature of some of these incredible works. With new lyrics and jazz, classic and contemporary improvisation there is a real play on musical notions of light, time and space. The songs range from Mozart's glorious Clarinet Concerto Adagio to Beethoven's 5th Piano Concerto renamed Bring the Light, Elgar's majestic Nimrod Variations retitled Light Eternal, Faure's haunting Pavane as Angel Song and Dvorak's New World Symphony as the moving spiritual Going Home.

Acclaimed composer Robert Haig Coxon has given Tania de Jong permission to write lyrics for his acclaimed piece *Coming Home* from Prelude to Infinity. This song is now retitled as *Soul Journey*. He has had number one hits in Canada and France and is especially renowned for the spiritual melodies he writes.

"Robert Coxon is undoubtedly one of the great composers reincarnated. His skill as a composer is nothing short of mastery. He has achieved some of the most beautiful drop-dead gorgeous musical phrases I have ever heard." Overtones Magazine Dallas, TX – USA

Heaven on Earth is the first of a planned series of recordings bringing together these artists and creative ideas and techniques further expanding the genre for contemporary classical artists.















Tania said: "In every piece there is something new that will bring you the music in a way you have not heard it before. The songs are all about journeying beyond the here and now, opening your heart, finding your light, letting it shine, the importance of love and the reminder that there is only this present moment. I hope you find as much light, joy, love and peace in this music as I do."

This recording is all about letting go, connecting to the higher universal energy within each of us – literally connecting us from earth to heaven and heaven to earth... and all that is.

Once this CD is released in 2015 10% of sales will be donated to Creativity Australia.

Track list

- 1. **Heaven on Earth**, composer Joe Chindamo, lyrics Tania de Jong and Joe Chindamo, **Time: 4.08**
- 2. **La Vie En Rose** (1945), lyrics Edith Piaf, composers <u>Marguerite Monnot</u> & <u>Louis Guglielmi</u>, arr. Joe Chindamo **Time: 3.27**
- 3. **Passing Time**, adapted from 7th *Symphony* in A Major, Allegretto, composer <u>Ludwig van Beethoven (1811-1812)</u>, arr. Joe Chindamo, lyrics Tania de Jong **Time: 3.42**
- 4. **This day will not come again**, adapted from Clarinet Concerto K.622 in A major, Adagio, composer W. A. Mozart (1791), arr. Joe Chindamo, lyrics Tania de Jong **Time: 4.19**
- 5. **Soul Journey**, excerpt from the *Prelude to Infinity* (2004), composer Robert Haig Coxon, lyrics Tania de Jong **Time: 3.36**
- 6. **Light Eternal**, adapted from Nimrod variations, composer Edward Elgar, arr. Joe Chindamo, lyrics Tania de Jong **Time: 3.39**
- 7. **Somewhere** from Westside Story (1957), composer Leonard Bernstein, lyrics Stephen Sondheim, arr. Joe Chindamo **Time: 3.28**
- 8. **Angel Song**, adapted from **Pavane in F sharp minor**, <u>Op.</u> 50, composer <u>Gabriel</u> <u>Fauré</u> (1887), arr. Joe Chindamo **Time: 3.30**
- 9. **My Breaking Heart**, based on <u>Neapolitan song</u> Core n'grato (1911), composer <u>Salvatore Cardillo</u>, lyrics Alessandro Sisca, arr. Joe Chindamo **Time: 3.47**
- 10. Rainbow Shower, composer Joe Chindamo Time: 1.33
- 11. **Summertime** from *Porgy and Bess* (1935), composer George Gershwin, lyrics DuBose Heyward, arr. Joe Chindamo **Time: 3.52**
- 12. Peace Om shanti, composer Joe Chindamo, lyrics Tania de Jong Time: 2.02
- 13. **Bring the Light,** adapted from Piano Concerto No. 5 in E flat major, <u>Op.</u> 73, Adagio (*Emperor Concerto*), composer <u>Ludwig van Beethoven (1809-1811)</u>, arr. Joe Chindamo, lyrics Tania de Jong **Time: 4.31**
- 14. **Goin' Home,** adapted from Symphony No. 9 in E minor (*From the New World*) Op. 95, <u>B.</u> 178, Largo (1893), composer <u>Antonín Dvořák</u>, arr. Joe Chindamo **Time: 4.25**



TANIA DE JONG AM is considered one of Australia's most talented sopranos. She has performed in over 40 countries and released 7 CDs, a number with her group Pot-Pourri. Her golden voice and ability to transcend different musical styles is known to bring tears and goose bumps to audiences! This is her first solo album.

"....gorgeous, golden-voiced Tania de Jong is in fine form...what a talent."

Opera Opera Magazine

She is the Founder of acclaimed opera/music theatre group <u>Pot-Pourri</u>, social enterprise <u>Creativity Australia</u>, <u>Creative Universe</u> transformational leadership and innovation capability programs, <u>The Song Room</u> arts education charity, <u>Creative Innovation Global</u> and entertainment and event production company <u>MTA Entertainment & Events</u>.

A graduate of the University of Melbourne (Bachelor of Law, Honours) and the Victorian College of the Arts (Opera/Voice), she attended college in the USA on a tennis scholarship.

In 2006 Tania was named Ernst and Young Australian Social Entrepreneur of the Year as Founder of The Song Room. The Song Room has provided access to creative learning for over 300,000 disadvantaged Australian children. Tania is Founder and Chair of Creativity Australia which works with a range of marginalised individuals (including migrants, people with depression and disabilities and job seekers) and communities to build transformational networks through the acclaimed "With One Voice" choir social inclusion programs. Her recent TEDtalk has been viewed by over 9,000 people so far.

Tania's other awards include the "Outstanding Individual Contribution to Australian Culture" and Churchill Fellowship and the Accessibility Award in The Melbourne Awards. She was inducted into the AGSE Entrepreneurs Hall of Fame at Swinburne University. She was named Brainlink Woman of Achievement in 2009.

She was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in June 2008 for service to the Arts as a performer and entrepreneur and through the establishment and development of music and arts enrichment programs for schools and communities.

She presents performances and keynote speeches in Australia and internationally for a diverse range of festivals, concerts, conferences and special events. She has sung in many languages, including English, Spanish, French, Latin, German, Italian, Russian, Mandarin Chinese, Japanese and Hebrew.

She is the granddaughter of Slawa Duldig who invented the first foldable umbrella in 1929 in Vienna.

JOE CHINDAMO is a pianist, composer, arranger who cannot be categorised easily. With twenty CDs in his wake, many of them topping charts in Japan, countless world tours and a plethora of awards, he can comfortably take his place amongst the best jazz pianists in the world. But like the greatest jazz pianists, Joe's abilities transcend jazz, as is demonstrated by his work with violin virtuoso Zoe Black, with whom he has formed a formidable duo and recorded a CD entitled REIMAGININGS. As an arranger he possesses an uncanny ability to personalise any work which enters his orbit.



"He has that Bill Evans knack for bringing unlikely material into his own orbit." Michael Cuscana, Blue Note reissue producer USA

A man with an international reputation, Joe has performed concerts all over the world. Of particular note, the Umbria Jazz Festival, The Tokyo Dome and The Lincoln Centre in New York. He also toured with famed US drummer Billy Cobham for over years.

His formidable pianism has earned him admiration from amongst the classical elite. In 2008 Joe was invited to perform three concerts in Italy by the celebrated classical pianist Michele Campanella. (Joe was invited back to perform in Naples by Campanella in 2011). The celebrated piano maker Paolo Fazioli heard Joe at the Umbria Jazz Festival and invited him to play at his auditorium in Venice, a venue usually reserved for top flight classical pianists. An enthusiastic recommendation by the formidable Nikolai Demidenko led to an invitation to perform a Mozart piano concert with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra in 2013.

In Australia, Joe is routinely invited to perform at all the principal festivals and a host of other venues ranging from house concerts to jazz clubs to the Sydney Opera House (where, along with James Morrison, was a featured soloist with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra - he returned to the Opera house to accompany Ann Sophie von Otter in 2011).

Amongst a plethora of awards, Joe has twice won the MO award for Jazz Instrumental performer of the year, two BELL AWARDS for best album and the APRA award for best jazz composition of the year in 2009 for 'Something Will Come to Light."

A gifted arranger, Joe has recently been commissioned to compose and arrange for chamber ensembles such as the Freshwater and Seraphim Trios and the Flinders Quartet. An Australia Council Fellowship in 2003 facilitated his composing of a concerto for Accordion and Orchestra. He has recorded 19 CDs under his own name and collaborated on other recordings with distinguished artists such as James Morrison, Ray Brown (of Oscar Peterson fame) and the Brecker Brothers.

Numerous of his recordings reached Number 1 on the Modern Jazz Charts in Japan.

Please contact Tania de Jong or her assistant with any enquiries re *Heaven On Earth* and for copies of the CD for review and play, interviews and photo requests on +61 (0) 3 8679 6000 or tania@creativeuniverse.com.au

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