

The Age of Now

Lefteris Moutzis' soulful music takes you places

While attempting to justify the title of his recently released album 'The Age of Now', it gradually becomes clear that Lefteris Moutzis speaks through his work, not only as a musician, but as a person who strives to move his audience with views of the world as he sees it.

Being his third album released under the now established band name J.Kriste, Master of Disguise, 'The Age of Now' is deeply connected with the "now" and its development/exploitation.

"The 'now' is the concept that gave home to the songs that I've been working on for the past few years," explains Moutzis. "I didn't consciously decide to write about it, but as I was putting the album together it felt that it was the common thread that was running through most of the music. Some songs deal with the uncertainty of futures to come, but having realised that, the present remains the inevitable choice, and it feels at the same time eternal. Music itself, for me, only happens in the present moment and when music happens, that is the only moment that exists."

Living in an era of uncertainty, Moutzis is looking for the essence of what really completes us and recreates his own musical world made out of feelings of love toward man and nature. What then, in his eyes, is essential for one to feel complete?

"If I had to answer with one word, it would be 'love'. And that for me is the starting point of all human creation. I believe that the more in touch we are with our true self the more complete we feel, regardless of what we choose to do in life. That also means shutting off the countless distractions that drive us towards feeling the opposite. It means letting go. Having said that, I confess that this is something that I struggle with in my everyday life as well, hence, why the music came out the way it did."

Assuming that this journey towards finding your true self is an on-going one, Moutzis takes the same approach with



J.Kriste, Master of Disguise

Photo by Giorgos Ioannou

regards to his music making. The songs included in the album are a result of about nine months of recording, on and off, but the essence of the album can be traced back far beyond the album's release date in December.

"In all honesty, it has been much more than that though. There are songs on this album that date back as far as 2001. They were just waiting to find their place and purpose. Like people," Moutzis reveals.

Having found their 'place' and bearing in mind Moutzis' previous work and his very active presence in the local music scene, one has to wonder what differentiates this album from others or perhaps, what enabled his compositions to come together this time around.

"It's definitely different (the album) in the sense that it was recorded mainly in Cyprus, whereas the other two were recorded in England and Greece, respectively. Most of the musicians that perform on it, unlike the previous ones,

are people who have performed most of these songs live before the recordings. So there is a band feeling hidden in there, which is something that the previous records didn't have.

"Personally it feels like the completion of a trilogy and that now is time to move on with something different. So, I would say it's just a natural continuation/progression from the other two (albums). I also like to believe that this is a more mature record, musically," admits Moutzis.

Characterising the music of 'Age of Now', besides being more mature, is challenging, something Moutzis confirms in his closing.

"A friend told me today that it's not rock music. I agreed. It's not classical music and it's not world or electronic music, either. It has elements from all of the above, though, and more. I like to see it just as good, soulful music that takes you places."

You can hear songs from the album 'Age



of Now' and other works by Moutzis live every Thursday this month, in Nicosia at the Antonakis' Music Hall in the Old Town, starting at 9:30pm with a 10euro entrance fee.

For more information or to purchase the album visit www.louvanarecords.com or call 99566485.



Photo by Fotini Romaliadou



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