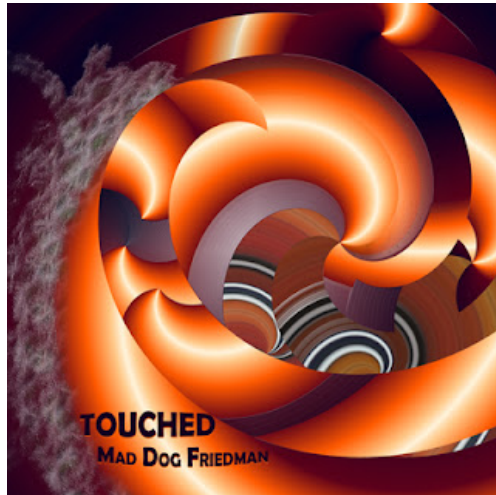


# Steve Sheppard Music Reviews

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Monday, February 21, 2022

## Touched By Mad Dog Friedman



### Touched By Mad Dog Friedman Written by Steve Sheppard

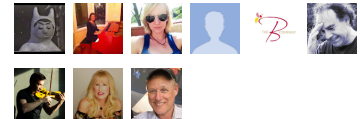
There are many facets to musical styles and instrumentation I love, but there is nothing quite like the magical mystery tour one takes through the realms of a beautiful atmospheric Native American style flute, and it is this we can do now through the medium of **Touched**, the latest album by **Mad Dog Friedman**.

This sojourn of sorts starts with a mournful repose and a vast dimension of sound on the opening piece **Echoes from Within**, one that flows with sublime peace into the following narrative entitled **Bruce's Blues**, where a moody, but incredibly smooth performance can be found.

I adore the opportunities given up by the master key of the title track, the grand scheme of the entire album can be found here, and what a sublimely deep resonance can be sourced, one that echoes through the halls of the ancients with a blissful serenity of **Touch**.

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##### Steve Sheppard

I have been writing reviews for a multiple of genres for many years now, as time has moved on I decided to get into the 21st century and create a blog, so with quickness of ease, you too could share my musical journey as well, enjoy reading the reviews and thank you for dropping by.

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Each and every track on this album has been crafted from its own mood and energy, and tracks like **There There** and **Ashed** are two fine examples of opuses that have been brought into this world via a vibrational intent, and allowing the flute to be the key element in their creations.

Honouring the third god in the Hindu triumvirate we move to a wonderfully organic presentation entitled **Dance of Shiva**, a happy and light performance can be found here from the artist, one that drifts into the welcome arms of a haunting reverie entitled **Snow**, a track that would go onto become one of my personal favourites from the release.

My heart bows to your heart through the track **Namaste**, a duel performance with echoes of spiritual flute floating back and forth in the distant dimensions of a gentle musical reality.

For me **Sacred Scar** was one of the top tracks from the album, one that reminded me very much of the work of *Nigel Shaw* on *Dartmoor Roundhouse*; a beautifully fluent and mysterious offering can be found here, one that will take you to a place of total stillness.

**Angels Are Crying** and **Heart** had so much to offer the listener, the former a delicate offering that hovered around the senses creating calm, the latter a deeper construction that gifted us a truly honourable meditative moment.

The short form cleverness of **Flickering** was wonderfully artistic, a track born from the moment with ease, while another masterful performance can be found on the resonations of a song of harmonic bliss entitled **Triangles**.

As we draw to towards the end of the release, I am minded of the quality of pieces that draw such an emotive response, as usually is the way with a solo flute album, and the composition **Nothing** is a fine example of that, almost imploring at times, but certainly an opportunity to go within the void.

**Now and Again** is our penultimate offering and another almost haunting reverie can be found here, but one that has an almost dualistic sense to its build and progression, whilst the concluding track entitled **Baby Steps** reminds me that even at the age of 64, it's never too late to take up the challenge of learning to play the flute, I just hope I have enough time left to even get near the last sublime ending opus.

**Touched by Mad Dog Friedman** has to be one of the most original and organic albums I have heard for many months, birthed from the heart, mind and soul, here is a solo Native American style flute release that will delight fans of the genre, an album, that if you allow it do so, will take you away to a place of tranquillity and calm, to breathe again.

Posted by [Steve Sheppard](#) at [7:45 AM](#)

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