



Robert T. McDonald III - You're Already There

"You're Already There" is the dynamic debut album by one of the Pacific Northwest's emerging virtuosic solo acoustic guitarists, Robert T. McDonald III. The album features 15 instrumental compositions that are intricately-woven soundscapes of contemporary and traditional acoustic guitar. McDonald explores contemporary steel string techniques that combine alternate tunings, percussion, tapping, and slap harmonics with traditional old time finger picking, chord melodies and the polyphony of voices available to the guitar. The results are a musical odyssey that introduces a compelling new perspective to New Acoustic, Folk Guitar and Instrumental genres.

Robert has been composing for solo acoustic steel string guitar for nearly two decades and his exciting debut album is a journey of sonic expression. Each song transforms through thematic development and variation, culminating rhythmic and melodic sequences of musical phrases, entwined together within a flow of intricate expression. "You're Already There" was recorded live without edits or overdubs in a 10' x 12' x 10' room with 7 microphones and a direct input. Each microphone was placed to accentuate the natural projection of the acoustic guitar. The notes ring within a wave of overtones that evolve throughout the room.

As a composer, recording artist, performer, producer and independent music educator, his passion for sonic expression is a "journey that begins again each day"

For over 20 years, Robert T. McDonald has explored many of the voices available to a modern guitarist: from metal to blues & jazz improvisations to classical compositions, from folk to punk & classic rock to post-rock, from experimental improvisations to contemporary compositions for ensembles. He studied classical guitar, jazz, history, theory and composition at Loyola University Chicago where he earned a BFA Cum Laude with Departmental Honors in Music. Throughout Robert's music education, he became enthralled with the polyphonic potential of the acoustic guitar, on both nylon and steel strings. While in Chicago, McDonald studied concepts of old-time finger-picking at the Old Town School Of Folk Music, developing techniques of alternate bass with harmonic melodies and slide guitar. McDonald's musical vision and manifesto emerges from a fusion of the numerous facets he has explored.

"Robert T. McDonald III - You're Already There" is the debut album of his and his wife Sarah McDonald's new recording label, Livingspectrum Recording based in Bellingham, Washington.

