



When Walid Nahas's fingers touch the piano, emotions twirl and dance... Young composer of Lebanese roots who grew up in France and Canada, Walid has definitely got inspired from his trips... His album, "Immersion," throws us into a mystical magical world, yet so real, since it's built up of feelings, tears, and laughter... It's a "whole new world" that opens up to each listener, telling a new story with every melody...

Walid Nahas

Talented Piano Player



Interview

Walid's world!

Where passion has wings and flies us... away



1 When did you start playing the piano?

I was 9 years old. I always wanted to play the piano. I think it's something in the genes; my little sister used to play the piano, and before her my grandpa and grandma. That gave me the passion for music. I started with classical courses in Paris. Later on, when I fled to Canada, by the time I was 13 years old, I started my music studies at the Montreal conservatory until I was 20. By that time, I started getting bored with sticking to partitions, so I went into improvising and composing, and so I played with a rock blues group. Chopin and Beethoven inspired me with classical and romantic rhythms that pushed me through my own world.

2 Did you ever feel that training for the piano is like studying?

Piano is a discipline one has to learn and that's the hard part about it. When you're young, you have much less patience. There were moments when it was really hard, when teachers were severe and when playing the piano wasn't that easy. Learning music isn't always fun. On the contrary, it necessitates too much work. I was passionate about it, but still, there were times when I wanted to stop everything and let go; repeating the same melody a hundred times wasn't fun at all at the end. Besides, there was a change during teenage years; I started to play less classical music and was more into rock.

What about your experience as a pianist?

It depends on the melodies. Sometimes, they are melancholic, I dig in my dreams and imagination, in a place I'd be living in... a fantasy, a dream...

4 Describe the world the piano takes you into?

There is one important theme that dominates my music: traveling. The album picture is taken at the seashore. To me it is traveling to a world I dig in. It's another universe, a complete different story. It's a manner of running away from the real world I'm living in.

5 Do you interact with people who are listening to you or you're in your own bubble?

When I compose, I'm alone. Sometimes, I work with other musicians and I play duos. I also play with singers. When I play live, I mix harmonica to the piano.

6 If you were to choose one person to dedicate to him/her your melodies, who would it be?

It would be my piano.

7 Do you feel that each melody tells a story? Tell us a bit about your stories.

Yes, indeed. Each melody tells a story. The titles reveal many things about emigrating people destiny... When you're floating between France, Canada, and Lebanon, you really don't know where to go. We're very inspired at those moments...

8 Where would your ultimate dream to perform be?

My ultimate dream would be to play by the seashore. I would love to perform in Byblos for example. The sea is inspiring... I think that music goes well with it as well. I wouldn't mind having my piano at the top of a mountain as well but logistically it would be difficult to do that.

9 Any messages to youth?

Parents should leave up to their children the instruments' choice. Regarding youth, they have to know that they would need a lot of discipline and practicing before everything becomes easy to them, they should go through a learning period until they'd be able to master the magical instrument. They might get tired at the beginning but they should persevere until they get to the magical part of it.

10 Is piano a passion to you?

I was always inspired by music. I started playing my own music and mixed it up with jazz and all kind of music influences; jazz, rock, music soundtracks for movies and since that moment, my fingers never stopped playing. It is very rare that a day passes by without me playing. To me, it's a great love story between me and my piano and not a day passes by without me playing.

11 Any upcoming projects?

Yes. I am planning to organize a series of concerts in September and I'm looking forward to it.

