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review board:

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RJ Lannan is the reviewer for The Sounding Board.

**Other reviews from The Sounding Board by R J Lannan:**

- *2006-01 by Antherius*, reviewed by RJ Lannan on 6/13/2006
- *The Butler's Bullfinch by Patrick Burke*, reviewed by RJ Lannan on 6/9/2006
- *Pianopianoforte by Giorgio Costantini*, reviewed by RJ Lannan on 6/3/2006

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**Pianopianoforte**  
**By Giorgio Costantini**  
 Label: Self Released

**Pianopianoforte tracks**

- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Tutto l'amor perduto | 8. Incanto        |
| 2. Elegia               | 9. la Tempesta    |
| 3. Adagio               | 10. Notturmo      |
| 4. Desert               | 11. La Mer        |
| 5. Nero                 | 12. Arcobaleno    |
| 6. Rain                 | 13. Voyage        |
| 7. Rosso                | 14. Sous la pluie |

**From Rome with Love and Passion**

Somewhere sandwiched between the music of ambient/electro band Balligomingo and esoteric orchestrator Paul Schwartz is Italian composer **Giorgio Costantini** and frankly, that's a fine place to be. There is a singular connection among classical orchestration, movie soundtracks and contemporary instrumental music and Costantini has not only found his way over that bridge, but he has made his own distinctive pathway. His compositions are lush orchestral works with moody scores and distinctive sparking percussion.

**Adagio**, the opening track has a bit of Italian opera flavor, but the repast is replete with present day echoing strings and a modern dance beat. It has an expression of movement and a feeling of new found energy in the bright piano melody. It is there to get the juices flowing and it does.

**Tutto Amor Perduto** or All the Love Lost is an extraordinary experience of Costantini's lush orchestration with a tinge of Jan Hammer. There is a bit of synthesizer and electronic percussion, but the chill goes on.

My absolute favorite track is one called **Nero**. Brooding, grooving and exquisite. Nero, Rome's most notorious emperor may be watching Rome burn or being tutored by Seneca, but he is doing it to an elaborate score with haunting voices, dramatic piano with Giorgio at his best. It is a tale as old as time. I have to admit I had the repeat button on this one for quite a while.

**Rain**, a melancholy piano piece, is pure emotion. A haunting tune that washes away the fears and cleanses the spirit. There is a pitter-patter of solace and just a sprinkle of hope. Oh yeah, it's sad, but beautiful sad.

And for a perfect follow up, Giorgio's **Arcobaleno** with its brooding solo piano is the perfect song for my rainy day. Ironically, arcobaleno is Italian for rainbow. How sad that the colors of his rainbow are mottled pastels and not vivid sky brightening stripes, but the color remains ever-present and the mood a bit somber. But don't you just feel that way sometimes?

**Giorgio Costantini** is a music arranger and composer living in Rome. Although he has performed on tours for the last decade, recently he has turned his considerable talents to being at times a session musician and at other times writing TV and filmscores. Costantini uses the antique classical influences of Satie and Debussy and the more modern inspiration of Michael Nyman and Ryuichi Sakamoto for his musical magic.

You can play him for mood music, at a dance club or for intimate rendezvous. Regardless, **Giorgio Costantini** will provide the perfect musical background for the occasion. Honestly I continue to play this artist for pure enjoyment whenever I am not obliged to listen to something else. If cinematic orchestration is your forte than this recording is highly recommended.

**Rating: Excellent** - 

- reviewed by RJ Lannan on 6/3/2006