

**Deambra: *Deambra* (CD); Deambra Spirit Records.**

Sweetly melodic progressive pop-rock from California. Deambra crafted some unforgettable hooks for this album, otherwise distinguished by Alex Diambri's masterful guitar work, symphonically flavored arrangements, and Wayne Peet's subtle work on electronic keys and piano. John Ross also does a good job as well on vocals.

Highlights include "Time Together," with its jaunty, keyboard/guitar intro and "The Left Hand Man," an instrumental guitar piece inspired by Ravel. The rest is breezy melodic fare, not as ambitiously progressive as Rocket Scientists' latest, but well worth a listen. These tunes are uniformly strong, from the opener "Imagination" to the closer, "The Sound of the Ages." Nice listening when you're not in a mood to be challenged. — **John Collinge**