

Home *at Last*

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WITH ASHLEY R. OMAN

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PIPE DREAM CENTER

Music for the Weary Warrior in Us All

In a world of ever-increasing uncertainty, where spirituality is the exception and not the rule, sometimes your only solace is found in music. Wouldn't it be nice to escape, if only for a short time, to the cathedral of Mother Nature? Manfred Schonauer gives us a fresh, melodic harmony as our first-class ticket to relaxation.

If you are looking for something to dance to, or tap your feet and snap your fingers with, you've come to the wrong place. If, however, you are wound

up tighter than a cheap watch and just want it all to go away, albeit for just a little while, *Home At Last*, Schonauer's newest CD, will do just that. His use of haunting melodies guides us on a journey of inspirational tranquility.

The very first song I listened to conjured up images of a grassy hill on a cloudy day. And as a sliver of sunshine steals through, a group of soldiers, silhouetted against the dissipating gloom, crest the hill, heading for home at last as the sun shatters the gray sky.

I sit here now on my back porch swing, playing Schonauer's music. The bird's songs blend as though they are one with the music. My mind drifts, and the troubles I had

when I began this day are becoming a mere distant memory. I fly away with my feathered friends and I am home at last.

Manfred Schonauer lives at the Pipe Dream Center, a performance, studio and teaching facility housed in a 100-year-old, two-room school house in Comstock, Wis. During the day Manfred gives private music lessons. Friday nights he has a standing invitation to perform at a local restaurant. Many Saturday nights are reserved for boogie nights at the Pipe Dream Center, where people come from a 50- to 100-mile radius to hear Manfred perform '50s, '60s, reggae, jazz, boogie and blues. For a complete schedule of Manfred's concert dates, go to

www.manfredsmusic.com. To listen to samples from *Home at Last* and Manfred's first CD, ... *about Eos*, go to www.whatsplaying.info. ★

