

# Reviews 2002

## Album ~ Celtic Fairy Lullaby



Reviewer ~ **Bill Binkelman -Retailing Insight Magazine**

"2002 (originally Pamela and Randy Copus) have had a long and highly acclaimed career, going back to 1992's *Wings*. With the addition of daughter Sarah (now all of 12 years old!) on lead and backing vocals (first heard on 2014's *Trail of Dreams*), the trio has reached a height that eclipses all their previous accolades. *Celtic Fairy Lullaby* is a magnificent recording, rife with deep mysticism, heartbreaking beauty, and many moments that are likely to have you catching your breath in wonder. The album contains twelve rapturous Celtic lullabies, sung by Sarah in Gaelic, Welsh or English and accompanied by Pamela and Randy's superb instrumentation (guitar, bass, piano, keyboards, flute and harp)."

## Album ~ Trail of Dreams



Reviewer ~ **Michael Diamond, Music and Media Focus**

"They were amazing as a duo, but now as a trio, they are truly the "first family" of new age music. *Trail of Dreams* is a stirring, evocative, and absolutely magical listening experience that I give my highest recommendation to."

Reviewer ~ **Chris Spector, Midwest Record Entertainment**

"Take that Jackie Evancho. The Copus' now bring their 10 year old into the family business as harpist and primary vocalist. Taking their orchestral new age to the next level, the tyro's vocals are given a pleasing ethereal mix that folds into the overall sound quite angelically. Picking up the orchestral new age baton from where Chip Davis seems to have laid it down, the Copuses have been at it long enough to know their *métier* well and deliver the goods throughout. Lush and lovely, just waiting for you to sink down into, they could become synonymous with holidays with just a few tweaks to the formula—but then we couldn't enjoy them the rest of the year. Well done."

## Album ~ Believe ~ A Spiritual Romance



Reviewer ~ **Michael Diamond, Music and Media Focus**

"2002 have created another sonic masterpiece that only furthers their standing as one of the most creative and prolific ensembles in new age music. As with all their releases, the production quality is absolutely stunning. The addition of vocals expresses their willingness to expand and evolve, exploring fresh musical terrain with each release. And now, with the inclusion of a new alchemical element in the mix, their daughter, I'll be more interested than ever to hear what melodic magic they come up with next. *Believe* is a virtuoso recording that will appeal to long time fans of 2002 and new listeners alike."

Reviewer ~ **Music Design**

"Enchantment reigns supreme in the music of 2002. The duo of Pamela and Randy Copus, 2002 infuses each of their albums with a hefty sprinkling of ethereal beauty and a clear sense of imagination, taking listeners on journeys through misty-eyed dreamscapes and otherworldly vistas."

## Album ~ Damayanti



Reviewer ~ **Raj Manoharan, RajMan Reviews**

"Movie scores of the last twenty years have been severely lacking in originality and have been neither memorable nor iconic. 2002 could easily fill that void and make movie music vibrant again and restore the cinematic experience to its former glory."

**Reviewer ~ Michael Diamond, Music and Media Focus**

"If there was ever a soundtrack in search of a film this is it. I love the evocative visual quality of this music and hope that some visionary producer is enchanted enough by the magic in this soundtrack and the timeless tale it tells, to want to make it into a movie."

**Reviewer ~ Rebecca Johnson, The Rebecca Review**

"Damayanti is really a love story expressed in music. This album has a majestic beginning. You could imagine this music being played as the universe was created. Stunning vocals immediately entice you as they create a choir effect not unlike you would imagine in heaven."

**Reviewer ~ Mainly Piano**

"...2002 are a musical force that cannot be written off. With a winning streak that began with 1997's Chrysalis, the Copus' have managed to record and create triumph after triumph. Damayanti keeps this productive streak well intact, conveying a very underlying production element of A Word In The Wind but melodically and musically keeping more in line with the 2002 flagship sound."



## *Album ~ Wings II - Return to Freedom*

**Reviewer ~ Music Design**

With every new 2002 release, you can always rest assured that you will be absorbed into a fascinating dreamscape that uplifts as it soothes. If anything, WINGS II – RETURN TO FREEDOM takes these qualities to a new level. The music here is bright and whimsical with a strong sense of airy serenity. The album is heavier in the atmosphere department than previous releases, with less emphasis on vocals (the vocals here are wordless and well integrated into the shimmering backdrops). In fact, the album is one of their most ambient to date, featuring synth atmospheres that are dense and lush, like a warm bed that you can easily curl up in. Besides the billowing synths, some piano and 2002's characteristic reverberated guitar come into the picture. Very relaxing!



## *CD/DVD set ~ A Word in the Wind*

**Reviewer ~ Michael Debbage**

Since when do you associate pulsating percussion with distinct synthesizer and electric guitar embellishments with 2002? Think now as this coming February Pamela and Randy Copus will present to the listening public their latest musical endeavor, "A Word In The Wind." While the sweet ingredients of 2002 have been placed on a low calorie diet it has been beefed up with a progressive edge that we have not yet heard from 2002 until now and the results are mind blower...

Though "A Word In The Wind" may have some familiarity, for the established fan it is time to blow up your preset expectation of the Copus duo. Meanwhile, those of you that may have dismissed their safe guaranteed hit formula that has kept them as an almost permanent resident on the Billboard chart, come revisit 2002 in 2009. "A Word In The Wind" is bold uncharted territory for 2002 and despite the higher "octane" musical retuning, the risk taking has resulted in an inspiring musical experience that will take you to all four corners of the earth and back again.



## *CD/DVD set ~ Deep Still Blue*

Reviewer ~ **RJ Lannan - Under the Spell of the Sea**

*Deep Still Blue*, the newest release from 2002 encompasses all that we value and love from New Age music and adds an extra dimension with the addition of a video disc in the package. The DVD has some of the most spectacular still photography on the planet compliments of marine photographer Susan Saibara. In addition, the group has included some full ethereal vocals to the mix. I truly enjoyed *The Emerald Way*, the last album of the husband and wife duo of Pamela and Randy Copus, but after watching and listening it appears that this is their best album to date.

2002 has been making terrific music for a long time. I think I may have some of their material on cassette. *Deep Still Blue* is a labor of love on many levels. There is the love of just making music and the delight of joyous little lives that we are privileged to steward, particularly as parents. Finally the love of the earth in all its forms whether deep ocean or soaring mountain. This is music for the type of person that loves to rejoice in life."



## *Album ~ Christmas Dreams*

Reviewer ~ **Richard Banks**

Lush, luscious, luxurious. Those are the first words that come tumbling out of my head early on a rainy Saturday morning in late November as I listen to 2002's *Christmas Dreams*, with an icebox still laden with Thanksgiving turkey and bedrooms full of children and grandchildren. 2002's calm, cool instrumental harmonies give me one brief respite before the commencement of our final Thanksgiving ritual, the decorating of the tree. The purpose of new age music is to provide respite, to allow contemplation, to evoke emotional release. 2002's *Christmas Dreams* fulfills this purpose through the use of lush, string-laden instrumental arrangements. Though produced through the wonder of electronics, the sound is warm and romantic. The 10-song set, though made up of public domain classics, feels fresh and alive. Time is short for a reviewer of holiday music, but if one has the time, one can bathe in the luxurious sensuality of *Christmas Dreams* for hours. --Richard Banks --[ChristmasReviews.com](http://ChristmasReviews.com)



## *Album ~ The Emerald Way*

Reviewer ~ **Peter Manzi, New Age Retailer**

"If someone asked me to define the genre of New Age music with one listen of a CD, I'd likely pick one of 2002's eight recordings. Their music is the epitome of serenity and peace — the atmospheric and gentle dream sounds softly put the listener into deep relaxation.

In their new CD, *The Emerald Way*, husband-and-wife team Randy Copus and Pamela Copus were inspired by the writings of Hindu mystic Sri Aurobindo, which refer to a pivotal moment in life when a person bypasses the expected decision and takes the path less traveled in search of the heart and the unknown.

A touch more atmospheric than their previous releases, *The Emerald Way* masterfully blends their style of lush flute, keyboards, guitar, piano, and sweeping orchestral grandeur. Fans of 2002 will not be disappointed in this familiar but original new offering, which is a great choice for quieter moments of in-store play."

Reviewer ~ **Dan Cowan, Music Design**

"As 2002, Pamela and Randy Copus have carved a niche in the healing music sub-genre with their swelling synthesizer dreamscapes. If *THE EMERALD WAY* proves anything, it's that they haven't lost their touch. The

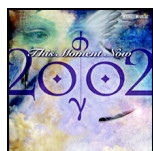
music overflows with heavenly melodies and majestic crescendos that are as light as cotton candy and equally sweet. If possible, this album actually feels more fluid than past works, with great use of piano, guitar and flute to build an uplifting mood. The compositions were inspired by the writings and verse of Hindu mystic Sri Aurobindo, specifically the theme of following your heart and choosing your own roads. 2002 fans will find a lot of familiar ground here, as the music parallels the group's best material."



## *Album ~ River Of Stars*

Reviewer ~ **Billboard Magazine**

Along with artists like John Tesh, Suzanne Ciani, and Kevin Kern, 2002 has the aura of elegiac chamber music, but it is so awash in bathos it makes Mantovani sound like Varese. The multi-instrumental duo, now on its fifth album, started out playing space music but has now adopted the celestial choirs and pizzicato synth-strings of Enya via James Horner's "Titanic" score. The pair's lush compositions are bathed in deep reverb, from which swooping stacked choirs emerge like flocked velvet angels. The impressions that poke through 2002's satin sheen are evident. The duo's opulent arrangements and romantic themes recall Vangelis. "Stella Maris" echoes Enya's "Cursum Perficio," while "Starwalkers" lifts its central melody straight from Badfinger's "Day After Day." On "River Of Stars," 2002 certainly recycles the past, but with more sugar. What a way to begin the new millennium!



## *Album ~ This Moment Now*

Reviewer ~ **Liz Doan, Senior Buyer for Music Design**

"This album is phenomenal! This album is fantastic! This album is so amazingly wonderful, beautiful, peaceful and filled with a sense of serenity that at THIS MOMENT NOW I am totally relaxed! It has been said that when looking to buy a new home, the key is location, location, location. For me, the key to finding the right recordings to distribute (or fill my very own collection) is music, melody and mood. 2002 provides the listener with all the right components, exquisite music and soothing melodies to put you in the proper mood. THIS MOMENT NOW is the connection to love... I'm connected, I just love this album!"

Reviewer ~ **Chris Spector, Midwest Record Recap**

"A very tasty work that hits you in the gut as hard as it does between the eyes. Charming, enchanting and everything you need in a first class audio getaway. A winner."

Reviewer ~ **TheDailyLama.com**

"If at some point during This Moment Now's running time you don't find yourself thinking, "Wow, this is beautiful," you may want to get your ears checked. 2002 provides the listener with all the right components, exquisite music and soothing melodies to put you in the proper mood. Lush synthesizer symphonics and airy overdubbed vocals gently swirl and intertwine like a plume of smoke rising from an ember. A most pleasant surprise is the track "Moment of Love" sung by Randy Copus himself. Soothing, reverberated piano/guitar melodies add another layer to the album's ethereal sweetness. This has to be Pamela and Randy's strongest piece of artistry yet... pure heaven."



## *Album ~ Wings*

Reviewer ~ **Sound Mind Magazine**

"When you listen to this one, you can feel the magic of what holds the universe together, and my only regret is that our grading system goes no higher than 5."



## *Album ~ Across an Ocean of Dreams*

Reviewer ~ **Silverlake Music**

"ACROSS AN OCEAN OF DREAMS is an adventure in imagination - a vivid, sweeping recording that puts you face to face with soundscapes that will astound you with their beauty.

The duo of Pamela and Randy Copus use their trademark instrumentation to create a little piece of heaven that's themed after the world's mighty ocean basins. Lush ethereal synthesizers swell, a celestial symphony of orchestral effects twinkle and flow with magical precision and airy vocalise haunts many of the tracks like a ghost. Listen to the epic sounds of "Nautilus," "The Sea at Night" or "Well of Wisdom" and you'll understand why 2002 has been a new age chart favorite for many years"

Reviewer ~ **Lloyd Barde, Backroads Music**

"Filling the space that Enya has left as yet unexplored, this pastoral music expresses longing and fulfillment through its themes of familiar places and feelings. The 2002 duo, Pamela and Randy Copus, use plaintive harps, gently intricate guitars, joyous flutes and an array of keyboard sounds to build visual images of the sun shimmering on lakes and sensations of romantic memories which lightly touch down in peaceful ways. ... 2002 finds that perfect balance point where contemporary and healing music join as one. This is perfect music for tender times, for those moments when the heart wishes to open."

Reviewer ~ **Jimmy D, The Instrumental Weekly**

"2002 has been a favorite on New Age music charts for the past five years, and Across an Ocean of Dreams stands as a testament to how far Randy and Pamela Copus have come as musicians. They have definitely set a new standard for themselves with this album, and I am truly looking forward to their next recording. 2002 has crossed over into greatness, and will hopefully stay there for years to come."



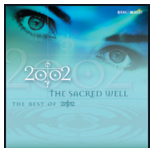
## *Album ~ Land of Forever*

Reviewer ~ **New Age Retailer**

"There are many legends surrounding the Land of Forever Young, or Tir Na Noc. It is said that a Bronze Age people were driven from Ireland around 600 B.C., retreating to an island off the Irish coast that remains submerged by day. It rises only at night, its glistening towers faintly visible in the moonlight. Land of Forever beautifully evokes the timeless image of this legend in dream-like, ambient soundscapes."

Reviewer ~ **Steve Ryals**

"They fill their compositions with extraordinary light and peace, as angelic choirs, strings, keyboards, flutes, and harp join with guitar in a journey of healing joy...Long gentle notes float like feathers on a spring breeze, gently transporting the listener into realms untouched by the ravages of time."



## *Album ~ Sacred Well*

Reviewer ~ **Chris Spector, Midwest Record Recap, October 2002**

"One of Real Music's consistent charting acts for the last five years takes a look back at their output during that time. Concisely programmed with two new tracks, fans of this new age duo will be hit right between the eyes by how hard gentle can hit them. A solid collection that adult fans will know is the real deal."