

Featured in international magazines: Classical Singer, Vocals and Metal Hammer

"Sultry, seductive and hypnotic" -Black Angel Promotions

"Beautiful and interesting music. So hard to find and so well done." -George Young, Country Club Productions Pty Ltd, Australia

"Mesmerizing and romantic with its lush instrumentation and hypnotic melodies" -Emily Stavrou, production coordinator for Schuler Books and Music

"... combines riveting Middle Eastern folk music with a modern jazz/rock twist. Listen to the track "Shashkin" and tell me it's not mesmerizing stuff."-John Sinkevics, music reviewer for the Grand Rapids Press Ensemble Al-Asdeka takes listeners on a melodic journey melding traditional Arabic music from long ago and far away with the modern instrumentation of jazz and rock. The fiery guitar work of D. Adam Estner and sinuous flute melodies by Dan Giacobazzi and evocative vocals by Aziza Poggi (added in 2009) weave a prismatic tapestry accentuated by driving Middle Eastern rhythms played by Kathy Roberts creating a sound that is uniquely their own.

In 2005, tabla-player Kathy Roberts formed Ensemble Al-Asdeka after living off and on in North Africa. Their debut CD was produced by Kathy and Robyn Robins, a former member of the Bob Seger Silver Bullet Band, who has produced over 57 platinum albums for artists over the world. Released in Decemeber of 2007, it was chosen "Editor's Pick" at CD Baby in 2008 and is listed at Magnatunes as a top 10 seller in the World music category. It is played in over 56 countries on over 70 radio stations. Song, Flute Taqsim was is soundtrack for Qatar's tourism video.

Sinuous and sexy improvisations loved by listeners and dancers alike originate from flutist and sax-man Daniel Giacobazzi. With a wide range of musical experience, Dan performs classical, country, jazz, South American folk, Tex-Mex, Tejano, rock blues and pop regionally. Dan also spent a year in Japan playing Western music and learning Japanese traditional and classical music. His song from the Ensemble Al-Asdeka CD, Flute Taqsim, was chosen by a Qatar tourism organization to be the sound track for their Qatar promotional video.

Versatile guitarist, D. Adam Estner brings years of performing experience and a huge repertoire of guitar licks to the table. Can a guitar sound like a mandola, an oud, a baglama? These questions have provided material for a lifetime of experimentation and study. With AzizA, Adam will focus on fusing the best of the west with the east.

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