

UNCUT

NAÏSSAM JALAL

Landscapes Of Eternity

LES COULEURS DU SON

8/10

Captivating, subcontinent-inspired variations on a key



Naïssam Jalal is a French flautist of Syrian heritage who has increasingly immersed herself in Indo-jazz territory.

This album, inspired by several months in northern India, features a series of ragas in the same key. The 11-minute opener “Tears In Delhi’s Fog” starts with her gently sighing, on flute and vocals, over a tamboura and sarod drone, gradually joined by Leonardo Montana’s modal piano, Nabankur Bhattacharya’s frenetic tabla and the intense polyrhythms of Brazilian drummer Zaza Desiderio. Other tracks are calmer, more meditative and rooted in Hindustani traditions, although the final track, “Inner Landscape In Raag Kafi”, is reminiscent of Impulse-era Alice Coltrane. **JOHN LEWIS**

FRANK VERONSKY; AMY FERN