
Shujaat Husain Khan; Katayoun Goudarzi**Ruby**

Self-released

No cat. no.

Rick's Pick

This one narrowly missed being the “Pick of the Month” for November; it is easily one of the five best albums I’ve heard this year. *Ruby* is a collaboration between Indian sitarist Shujaat Husain Khan and Iranian singer Katayoun Goudarzi. Those who are paying attention may wonder where two musicians from such disparate backgrounds might be able to find common ground, and in this case the answer is in the work of Rumi, the great Persian poet. Together Khan and Goudarzi created musical settings for a selection of Rumi’s poems, and with the help of several additional musicians (notably the gorgeous bansuri playing of Ajay Prasanna) they have made a record that is deeply, richly beautiful. I can’t think of a library that would not benefit from adding this album to its collection. (Note: the link above leads to a digital download, but the album will also be available in CD format after November 6.)