

## WORLD



**Taffetas**  
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(Most, 1002)



A GENTLE acoustic trio that could be an Islington dinner party soundtrack, but actually stimulates with its sound and textures. The three players are Ibrahima Galissa from Guinea-Bissau on kora, the sublime, rippling gourd-and-fishing-line harp from West Africa, and the Swiss duo of Marc Liebeskind on guitar and Christophe Erard on double bass.

The opening track, Fano Keita, finds a gentle West African rhythmic groove and then adds rippling cascades and contrapuntal dialogues. It is both sublimely soothing and endlessly fascinating as you tune into the intricacies of the kora and guitar playing.

There is a delicate, pointillist instrumental texture which forms the background to a soft female vocal on the title track, and Fanta — nothing to do with the fizzy drink — is a softly caressing escapist fantasy. That is the appeal of this disc — an escape from frenzy and noise into a place of delicacy and refinement.

**Simon Broughton**

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