

ORIGINALLY POSTED ON MWE3.COM by Robert Silverstein

1974 seems like a thousand years ago. 1994 doesn't seem that far but in fact, it's also been a long time indeed. Music is the one thing that seems to stand up well against the ravages of time and another case in point is the 2015 album remaster of *In Search Of Higher Ground* by L.A. based guitarist Neil Citron. The all instrumental CD, first released on CD in 1994, has been remastered with 3 bonus tracks extending the original 13 track album for this 2015 reissue. Citron's original album vision ranges from hard rock and guitar-centric heavy metal music to a more introspective type of instrumental rock, some with acoustic reveries. In some regards Citron's music sounds very influenced by Steve Morse and the original vision of The Dixie Dregs. Like Morse, Citron is very effective at creating sweeping near orchestral, instrumental rock soundscapes that are truly moving. As per the original album, *In Search Of Higher Ground* features Citron on guitar in the studio with top musicians including keyboard icon Erik Norlander, Walter Garces (drums), and Tony Franklin (bass). One vocal cut does include the renowned singer Lana Lane. Over the years, an engineer and producer, Citron has worked with a number of top artists including Joe Satriani, Larry Carlton and Steve Vai so it's good to see him getting some long overdue recognition for his long lost album classic. *In Search Of Higher Ground* is time well spent for instrumental guitar rock mavens who very well might have overlooked this classic from way back in 1994. The original CD is being rereleased but those seeking out the re-mastered version may very well have to pick up on the digital versions available at the usual sources. <http://www.declassifiedrecords.com>.

