

# Amirah

Amirah (VaiTunes #6) (8:14)

Written by Surinder Sandhu

P Musica Scardinelli 2003

Arranged and produced by Surinder Sandhu

## VaiTunes

It's not uncommon for a musician to record more work than they release. In my case, I have a digital ocean of snippets in various degrees of completion.

Some are leftovers from assorted project recording sessions, projects that were never completed, sound check jams, demo snippets, etc.

There are enough lonely unreleased notes in my world to fill an "infinity shelf."

VaiTunes are tracks that are culled from this melodic abyss, brushed off, sometimes severely hosed down, and released as digital singles.

These tracks may be specific to a particular project that has never had the chance to be a completed big picture, but now, with the advent of all this digital technology and distribution, it's possible to release a variety of tracks from a potential project without having to complete the whole project itself. Eventually, if there are enough tracks completed that fall into a precise endeavor, perhaps they will be compiled and released as a cohesive CD.

In any event, it's a good way to release a constant stream of music.

Although the plan is to continue to create whole, full-bodied CD releases,

VaiTunes can serve as temporary pacifiers for some delectable melodies to be sucked through the ears and absorbed into the soul.

-Steve Vai



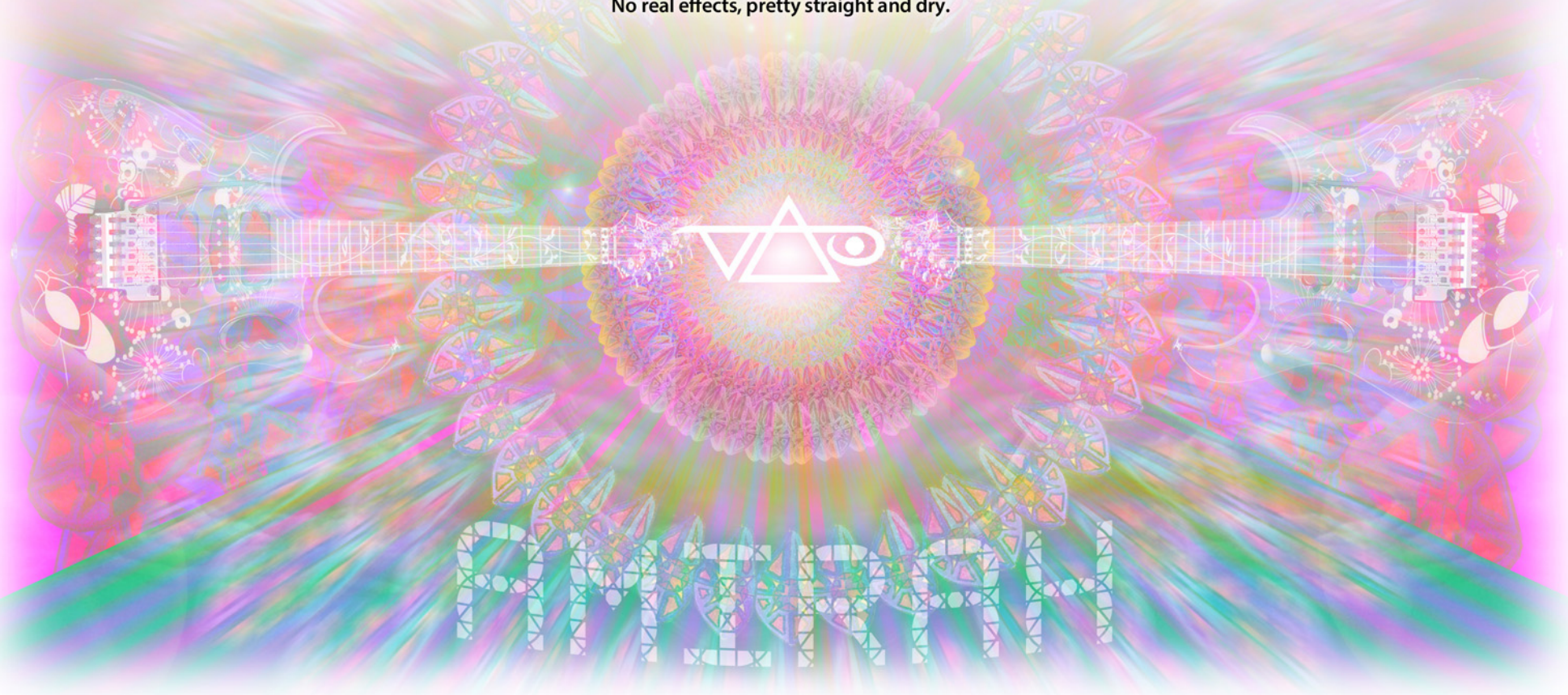


## Gear

For the electric guitar melody and solo I used "Flo."

"Flo" is one of my main Ibanez Jems. The amp was a Carvin Legacy 1 prototype.

No real effects, pretty straight and dry.







AMIRAH

## Song Juice

Surinder Sandhu is an extraordinary Sārangī player. The Sārangī is a bowed, short-necked string instrument of India. It sounds a bit like a sitar from a rougher neighborhood. Surinder has established himself as a highly proficient and respected composer and performer of this instrument. He put together a wonderful exotic ensemble called “The Saurang Orchestra.” Check out his website at <http://www.surindersandhu.com/>  
Back in 2002 he approached me to contribute to some of his recordings. *Amirah* is one of the little jewels that resulted.

The track is unlike any other VaiTunes in that it is composed and recorded by a musician steeped in authentic cultural Indian music.  
The entire melodic structure and atmosphere this track sets up is quite genuine.

As VaiTunes is a veritable potpourri of tracks from different projects, I thought it would make a nice change from what could be expected.

When I was thinking about how to perform the melody I had to keep in mind that I was doubling an instrument, and performer, that had a whole different vocabulary for phrasing melody. It was a glorious challenge and forced me to approach the guitar with a different overview.

There are so many special nuances to the articulation of the melody that I tried to recreate.

This resulted in a way of playing that is uncommon for conventional rock guitar sensibilities. And that's my favorite kind of challenge.

It's a great way to expand your musical vocabulary.





## Academics

Management: Ruta Sepetys for SEG. Inc. - [www.sepetys.com](http://www.sepetys.com)

Label: Light Without Heat, Inc.

Booking: Brian Greenbaum & Chris Dalston at CAA

Production Management: Pamela Dancy & Lindsey Hess

PDF Design: 6StringMedia, Inc. - [www.6string.com](http://www.6string.com)

Vai.com: Andy Alt

Legal: Gerald F. Rosenblatt, Law Offices of Gerald F. Rosenblatt; Chris Corabi, Law Offices of Chris Corabi

Financial Management: Staci Robley & Margaret Robley at R&R Business Management

Steve uses: Ibanez Jem Guitars; Carvin Legacy Amps; DiMarzio Evolution Pickups,

Morley Bad Horsie Wah & Little Alligator Volume Pedals; Ernie Ball Strings

Visit [www.vai.com](http://www.vai.com) -|- [facebook.com/stevevai](https://facebook.com/stevevai) -|- [twitter.com/stevevai](https://twitter.com/stevevai) -|- [youtube.com/stevevaihimself](https://youtube.com/stevevaihimself)

Light Without Heat, Inc.

The VaiTunes logo is a registered trademark,

2010 Light Without Heat Records

Marketed and Distributed by LIGHT WITHOUT HEAT,

17328 VENTURA BLVD #219, ENCINO CA 91316

All rights reserved. Unauthorized duplication is a violation of applicable laws.