

QUOTES - Dust

"Everything is blended with fluidity, articulation and grace. DUST sounds the way well-executed dance choreography looks: intriguing, decisive and, at times, just a bit unbelievable — in the best way."

~ Downbeat Magazine, 2025

"The music is ceaselessly melodic, with details and intricacies that never obscure the music's inner warmth or interrupt the music's unhurried flow."

~ JazzTimes, 2025

"so incredibly special [...] music [...] that is extraordinarily still and serene, leaving the listener with a sense of timelessness rare in Western music."

~ That Canadian Mag, 2025

"A compassionate and poetic attempt to respond to the current, most challenging and unfathomable times [...] and to ask questions of complex identity, home and exile[...] Dust offers the most touching medicine for our dark times.

Gottlieb and her Dream Keepers caress our tired bodies and souls, motivate and remind us all that better times are within reach."

~ Salt Peanuts, 2025

TERRI LYNE CARRINGTON & CHRISTIE DASHIELL

DOWNBEAT

Jazz, Blues & Beyond

JOE SATRIANI & STEVE VAI HIT THE ROAD!

Ryan Truesdell's
Gil Evans Dreams

Butcher Brown
Blindfold Test



Ayelet Rose Gottlieb/ Dream Keepers

Dust

INDEPENDENT RELEASE

★★★★½

Dust embraces globally minded composition, performance and collaboration with strong intention and thoughtful imagery. The perspectives of authors and poets from around the world ensure that neither the album's music nor its messages become complacent or predictable.

Snare with a slowly marching brush-stroked rhythm gently propels opening track "The Dream Keeper." "Beads," by contrast, fosters nervous tension that's fueled by rapid percussion, dissonant synth tremolo and accidental-laden guitar against plainly spoken words. The title track adds to this unease with colliding half-step motif on guitar, repeated percussive scraping and Gottlieb's vocals. The latter oscillate between following the chords and bending between them, much the way the words on several tracks slide between languages in the same song. Some performances feel vast while others feel intimate and direct.

Seven languages — English, French, Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino, Arabic and Farsi — and so many approaches to their musical framing lead *Dust* to beckon for undivided attention. Yet, for all that might feel lost without consulting the liner notes, it's refreshing to experience and process the album in its natural state before having to multitask and read the words. The obvious upside to this is an abundance of inherent revisitation and discovery. Everything is blended with fluidity, articulation and grace. *Dust* sounds the way well-executed dance choreography looks: intriguing, decisive and, at times, just a bit unbelievable — in the best way.

—Kira Grunenberg

Dust: The Dream Keeper—Tifla; Summons; Amal Zo Tikva; Beads; I Heard Your Voice; Dust; Three Kisses; Azoy vi mayn blik der fartret; er; Derman des l'aube; By Night; Home; One Voice Of All. (48:02)
Personnel: Ayelet Rose Gottlieb, vocals; Bernard Falaise, guitars, keyboards, electronics; Hamin Honari, Persian hand percussion; Stéphane Diamantakiou, contrabass, synthesizer.

Ordering info: cornedbrume.bandcamp.com

New 5: Top Jazz Releases, April 2025

PUBLISHED APRIL 28, 2025 – DAVID R. ADLER



DUST

Ayelet Rose Gottlieb and Dream Keepers, *DUST* (Corne de brume)

Montréal-based singer and composer Ayelet Rose Gottlieb brings a wide array of influences to this set, sung in English, Hebrew, Ladino, Yiddish, Arabic, French, Spanish and Farsi. There's a dark and mysterious atmosphere, a bit of a Portishead vibe, thanks to Bernard Falaise's otherworldly blend of guitars, keyboards and electronics. Hamin Honari, on Persian hand percussion, mixes it up with bassist Stéphane Diamantakiou to complete the Dream Keepers lineup.

Like her fellow members of the John Zorn–founded a cappella quartet Mycale (Sofia Rei, Malika Zarra, Sara Serpa), Gottlieb is a fluent improviser, rhythmically adept, drawn to music of the world, mining from poetry and other lyrical sources. She has six original pieces on *DUST*, along with three by Falaise and two by Diamantakiou. The music is ceaselessly melodic, with details and intricacies that never obscure the music's inner warmth or interrupt the music's unhurried flow. The booklet, too, is beautiful: Sarit Evrani's 12 color illustrations represent letters that spell out "Dream Keeper," accompanied by lyrics (in English translation) for each of the tracks.

ALBUM REVIEWS

Dream Keepers: Dust

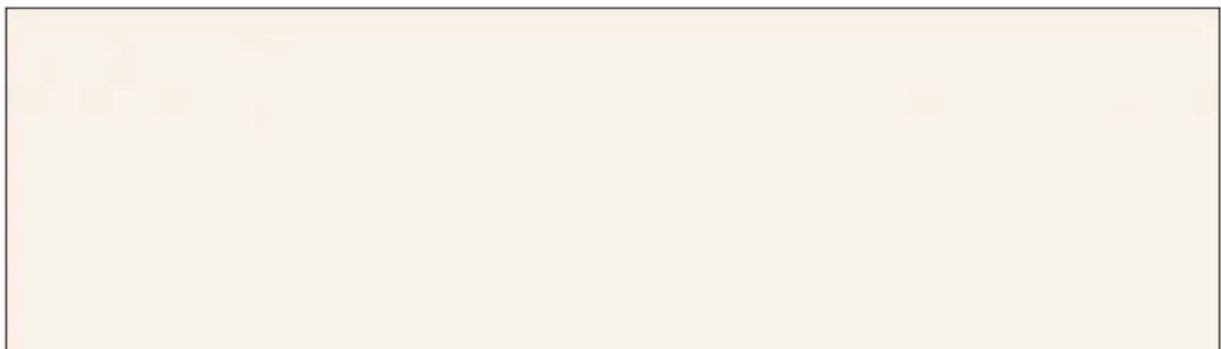


Published 3 months ago on June 25, 2025
By **Raul Da Gama**



Ayelet Rose Gottlieb believes in the transformative power of art

All of the musicians in **Dream Keepers** are Canadian, an often volcanic [albeit in the most positively fascinating manner] society that is a melting pot of cultures. The Québécois guitarist Bernard Falaise, percussionist Hamin Honari and contrabassist Stéphane Diamantakiou share a deep and abiding musical bond with the vocalist and notional leader of the ensemble, vocalist **Ayelet Rose Gottlieb**. In many ways Ms Rose Gottlieb is the quintessence of the group, a 'place where East and West meet,' which is as good a categorisation as any. This is what makes *Dust* so incredibly special.





Ms Rose Gottlieb is one of the leading composers and vocalists who brings together her unique mixed European, Middle-Eastern [and] Jewish background, and the influence of Eastern philosophies is eminently clear in many of her attitudes towards spirituality and its expression – whether writing music and lyrics and vocalising them or in interpreting the music and lyrics of a world of writers and poets [as she often demonstrates]. In the music of *Dust*, she tends to explore a wide range of sonorities – nudging the other performers to dig deep into their own multicultural backgrounds and do likewise.

The result is the creation of music – from *The Dream Keeper*, *Amal zo Tikva* and *Beads*, through *Three Kisses*, *Azoy vi mayn blik der fartreter*, *Demain dès l'aube*, and, of course, *Dust* – that is extraordinarily still and serene, leaving the listener with a sense of timelessness rare in Western music. Deep listening [like that propositioned by Pauline Oliveros] will reveal to those who keep still and listen with their hearts the most original flourishes. Ecstatic soft rolling thunder of large Persian hand-drums over strange scurrying harmonies from the wailing – sometimes dissonant – strings of the guitar, all of this woven into the dark rumbling of the contrabass.

Above all is the voice, which breaks through the static tonal [or atonal, as the song demands] calm in the voice rising and falling in chromatic episodes. Each composed and improvised sequence is driven by equal parts logic and emotion, in scores that are filled with – by turn – pulsating agitation, calm beauty and resolution. All the performers shine, bringing outstanding, interiorised and idiomatic interpretations of these – most mysterious – intricate musical canvases created from the poetry of some of the greatest wordsmiths of our time.



Ayelet Rose Gottlieb and Dream Keepers

The stock of each of these artists rises considerably with their respective performances – both individual and ensemble. And yet one gets a sense that if there is one common denominator here it is [further proof that in] Ms Rose Gottlieb’s vocalastics is her belief in the transformative power of art. Most of her uniqueness as a vocalist lies in the ability to unite this group with her imagery [both secular and spiritual] as she shares her passionate belief in the ability of music to establish a sense of connection with the transcendent. And every performer on Dust responds likewise.

Deo Gratis...



ABOUT AYELET ROSE GOTTLIEB

Music – 1. The Dream Keeper / Tfila; 2. Summons; 3. Amal zo Tikva; 4. Beads; 5. I Heard Your Voice; 6. Dust; 7. Three Kisses; 8. Azoy vi mayn blik der fartreter; 9. Demain dès l'aube; 10. By Night; 11. Home; 12. One Voice of All.

Musicians – **Ayelet Rose Gottlieb**: voice; **Bernard Falaise**: guitars, keyboards and electronics; **Hamin Honari**: Persian hand percussion; **Stéphane Diamantakiou**: contrabass and synthesizers.

Released: 2025

Label: Corne de brume

[ayeletrose.com]

Runtime: 48:27

RELATED TOPICS: #AYELET ROSE GOTTLIEB #BERNARD FALAISE #CORNE DE BRUME #HAMIN HONARI
#PAULINE OLIVEROS #STÉPHANE DIAMANTAKIOU



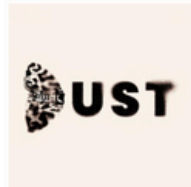
Raul Da Gama

salt peanuts*

AYELET ROSE GOTTLIEB

«Dust»

CORNE DE BRUME



The opening song in Israeli-Canadian jazz vocalist-songwriter Ayelet Rose Gottlieb's new album *Dust* matches the poem «The Dream Keeper» of American poet Langston Hughes (which also inspired Charlie Haden and The Liberation Music Orchestra's album by the same name, Blue Note, 1990) with the poem «Tfila» (prayer in Hebrew) by the Israeli poet Erez Bitton. This is the story of *Dust*. A compassionate and poetic attempt to respond to the current, most challenging and unfathomable times that are «Awya from the too-rough fingers / Of the world» (as Hughes wrote), and to ask questions of complex identity, home and exile, and keep the dream alive. *Dust* is titled after a poem of American poet Dorianne Laux, as dust leaves a faint flavour in our mouths; it's the dust of our physical existence, but also the stardust of our dreaming selves, reminding us that we are all interwoven.

The Jerusalem-born, Montréal-based Gottlieb is known from the vocal ensemble Mycale, and her collaborations with the string quartet ETHEL and Palestinian-American poet Naomi Shihab Nye. She has always opted for an inclusive musical vision that accommodates elements of jazz, art-rock, traditional Jewish music, and Middle Eastern music. She sings in English, French, and her ancestral languages – Hebrew, Ladino, Yiddish and Arabic, and is accompanied by the Dream Keepers – Iranian-Canadian percussionist Hamin Honari, who also sings in Farsi, Canadian guitarist-keyboard player Bernard Falaise and French double bass player Stéphane Diamantakiou.

The twelve songs suggest a much better, brave new world, where machoistic, reptilian forces are pushed back in favor of feminine, sensual ideas, «the powerful voices of ten thousand grandmothers, and the tender silences between our walls». *Dust* can be listened – and experienced as a sonic haven for dreaming and grieving, but Gottlieb is not an innocent believer who imagines «there's no countries». She is a sober believer in the transformative, liberating power of music and poetry, who knows how to articulate a thoughtful, convincing, and tangible vision. Just listen to her warm, wise delivery of the poem of Puerto Rican poetess Aurora Levins Morales that wrote: «...There are no leaders who dare to say / every life is precious, so it will have to be us...» She uses the poem «Amal zo tikva» by Israeli poet Almog Behar to establish a strong link between the Hebrew and Arabic cultures, with quotes of Egyptian great singer Oum Kulthum's masterpiece «Amal Hayaty». She uses the poem of American Yiddish poetess Anna Margolin who believed in the comforting, healing power of love: «But listen, oh, like so, until late / for the coming of the shadow of love, / sad as river grasses, / tender as the names of the flowers», and «By Night» by Chilean Pablo Neruda, with a similar message: «...That's why, love, tie me to pure movement, / to the tenacity that beats in your breast / with the wings of a submerged swan...». This cycle of prayers, pleas, and dreams ends with Dylan Thomas' «One voice of all»: «...One voice of all he remembers most dearly / as his dream buckets down».

Dust offers the most touching medicine for our dark times. Gottlieb and her Dream Keepers caress our tired bodies and souls, motivate and remind us all that better times are within reach.

Eyal Hareuveni

Ayelet Rose Gottlieb (voice), Bernard Falaise (guitars, keyboards, electronics), Hamin Honari (Persian hand percussion), Stéphane Diamantakiou (double bass, synthesizer)