



Artists / Titles **Samarkande**
"Foundation.02"

Oblivion Ensemble
"i fall, sound[in]g her dream"

Label Static Signals /
Samarkande Records

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Format Limited edition split CDR

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*A limited-edition split CDR, numbered 1 to 100 and hand-signed by members of both groups.
Released as a special gift to audience members in commemoration of their joint concert events:*

A|V Space • Rochester NY • Jan 26 2007

Gesù Espace Aline Letendre • Montreal QC • Jan 28 2007

Samarkande

Creating beautiful, varied soundscapes of electronic improvisation, Samarkande is the collaboration of Montreal-based musicians Eric Fillion and Sylvain Lamirande. Lamirande has performed with John Zorn's COBRA Game Player and the Quatrax Saxophone Quartet. Fillion is a classically trained pianist and organist, and former member of progressive rock groups Talisma and Filber Basco. Together as Samarkande they build dark, organic electronic textures using classic analog synthesizers such as the Mellotron, Moog and Hammond organ in combination with modern-day digital instruments.

Recorded on New Year's Eve 2002, and revised/expanded in December 2006, at the center of **Foundation.02** is an ominous, shape-shifting drone created from a washing machine mixed through a Micro-Moog. Emerging from the drone are scattered Mellotronic pads and a disturbing vocal loop "... any captive apes or monkeys that die here can contribute to scientific research ... " From this bleakness, the piece shifts to a burbling, sequence that slowly again becomes colored with darker synthetic tones, descending into whispers, voices and electronic ambience.

Oblivion Ensemble

Drawing extreme elements of electro-acoustic, modern classical, and industrial musics, the sonic tapestries created by guitarist Brannon Hungness (former member of Glenn Branca's ensemble) and keyboardist John Bergstrom are carefully woven with unique improvisations, excerpts, and layered samples and loops; the result is dark, beautiful and intense, inspiring conflicting emotions and aural hallucinations.

i fall, sound[in]g her dream drifts mysteriously through three introspective improvisations between Hungness (guitar) and Bergstrom (synthesizers) recorded in May 2004. Additional treatments of orchestral percussion (bells, cymbals, gongs, tambourine), natural sounds (a card shuffler, a crumpled sheet of paper, an egg dropped into a hot frying pan) and various electronic effects were added in December 2006, along with a short set of fragmented lyrics performed by Bergstrom and vocalist Joyce Chirachinda.

The lyrics evoke similar themes of dream-transformation and the "self-puzzle" found throughout their full-length 2006 release Seraphim Hallucino (Malignant Records).

(she)
i fall . . .
her hiding beneath her:self
she knows
i am my dream
whisper[in]g to my eyes closed open

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