

# Andy Pickford

**'Biosphere' is a solo release by Andy Pickford. He is an enigmatic UK synth maestro, one of the most popular of the UK electronic music scene since the 1990s. He is an EM pioneer, Andy Pickford's music is characterized by strong rhythms, sequences, melodies, and themes.**

**'Biosphere' is mind blowing - a selection of 6 dynamic and expertly constructed tracks that power into the senses. This creates a very filmic album. It's full of ideas and creativity. This album was put together sequentially from start to finish**

**You can listen to a complete streamable 16-bit file (with no gaps) included with the download. As you'd expect the music by this artist is very melodic, with one memorable theme after the other. Sequences and rhythms are tight and imaginative, yet they don't lose sight of Andy Pickford's EM roots.**

**'Biosphere' is beautifully produced and shows a maturity and expertise that will appeal to his existing fans and is sure to generate praise from the electronica/chill market**

# BIOSPHERE



It was so sad to hear the passing of Charles Thaxton recently a.k.a CHAR-EL. Charles was Ohio-born and California-based synthesist and keyboardist/composer. Charles performed in many bands and performed solo concerts for over 40 years. In the 70's, he played with bands doing progressive rock originals and covers, among them were STARGATE and MAGIK DAYZE. He relocated to Southern California for several years in 1979 then moved to Phoenix Arizona and worked with more prog-rock musicians. He was a member of the group GALILEO. In 1986, Charles joined a project called VOYAGER which was a Tangerine Dream-influenced trio doing original music in planetariums and at outdoor events.

# CHAR-EL

Eventually moving back to his native Ohio, Charles produced his first cd under the name CHAR-EL called WORLDS WITHOUT END in 1996. The CD received repeated exposure on the NPR show MUSIC FROM THE HEARTS OF SPACE and good reviews worldwide. His second CD HEAVEN AND EARTH, a 2-CD set, was released in March 2000 to critical acclaim. While the first cd was a blend of classic cosmic music atmospheres, the second disc divided the music into two worlds... HEAVEN being purely space music and meditative soundscapes, while EARTH moved into progressive rock/symphonic new age territory. For the EARTH CD, Charles enlisted some old bandmates from previous bands like Larry Clark from GALILEO on guitars.

Charles' early influences include progressive rock, motion picture scores, new age and electronic music, and classic rock. Some of the music from WORLDS WITHOUT END was selected by a doctor in Los Angeles to be used as part of a women's healing retreat program. The last few years, Charles has been doing some selected live performances in churches and at outdoor events around Ohio and Michigan and at bookstores like Borders, as well as The UFO Festival in Roswell New Mexico.

## HEAVEN & EARTH

In 2009 the album 'Resurrection' born, an all new collection of instrumental symphonic progressive/new age rock (with plenty of Mellotron and some tasty guitar work) mixed with some meditative orchestral keyboard tracks! The 'The Healing' in 2014 saw atmospheric synthesizers, gentle flutes, celestial harps, and melodic acoustic guitars combine in peaceful looping sequences designed to support massage, meditation, or any healing therapies.,

Bon voyage Charles, your legacy with live on in your music forever.







# MASSERGY

## FIRE OPAL

Electronic artist Massergy makes his Spotted Peccary debut with FIRE OPAL, an inspired and colorful take on ambient music filled with evocative instrumentation and lush resonant textures. Recorded and mixed entirely outdoors, solely at night and in all weather conditions, FIRE OPAL is a hopeful and magical album of intoxicating soundscapes and flowing atmospheres.

Inspired by the fire opal of Mexican folklore — a stone that is said to have powers offering its bearer healing, protection, and safe passage through ceremonial journeys — Eric Jensen, Massergy's sole creative force, uses guitars, synths and electronics to create a vivid sonic world where dynamic tranquility mingles with delicate ambience. Drifting layers of synth and ambient guitar are embellished by percolating patterns of keyboard, harmonics, guitar, bass, and an assortment of expressive acoustics, to create music that may bring to mind firefly tracers in a dark forest, glints of sunlight piercing gray clouds, or a warm crackling fire that shoots sparks of electricity into the night sky.

Massergy is the working name of music producer Eric Jensen. Born in Chicago, and now based in Austin Texas, Eric is a self-taught synth programmer and composer of ambient soundscapes who creates music entirely outdoors within a nature preserve.

Alluring and captivating, FIRE OPAL burns with an irresistible magic, illuminating a rich musical pathway filled with mystery and tranquil beauty.



# COSMIC WAVES

*In the 70's and 80's synthesizer music was shining like a diamond. Fourth Dimension is determined to carry on the ancestors' great work and wants to keep alive this music style. You can find Fourth Dimension on Facebook, Soundcloud and Youtube as well. Early 2017 Fourth Dimension changed its name to The Fourth Dimension Project.*

## THE FOURTH DIMENSION PROJECT



I was saddened to hear that Wave World member Gert Van Santen had past away recently. Over the years I had the privilege of knowing him personally, meeting at various gigs Gert performed with Waveworld, in the UK & Holland, life is certainly unfair. As a tribute we've taken two tracks from their debut album "Species", on this edition.

Gert had a long history of making music in, and producing music for numerous acts and projects, from jazz-rock to techno and completely spaced out electronic stuff. He has released many cassettes and CD's. Examples are Modern Management (1987), Bats in the Belfry (1992) and Tibet Passage (1993)

Gert and Harry met in 1995 at a local concert in The Netherlands, where they decided "to produce a commercial album". This resulted in the album "Aware", which was released under the name of "Solipsist Paradise". The track "Biosphere", which is also on this album, was remixed by Klaus Schulze, when Gert won a contest for German magazine Keyboards. "Aware" received great reviews and got quite some airplay on Dutch regional and national radio. A popular dj mentioned that the songs were of "un-Dutch quality." Solipsist Paradise was even asked to perform a live-song on a national television show.

*Rest  
in Peace*

# GERT VAN SANTEN

As a member of Wave World a Dutch/Canadian multimedia project attracted quite a lot of attention for its fascinating music and enchanting shows. During live performances, their impressive music was blended with computer-generated graphics of a virtual world, projected on a huge screen.

Wave World's extraordinary music style can best be described as modern space music with dance influences. The enthralling shows carry the audience away to an alien world, that might exist in another time and another dimension

In addition to the audio-visual concert format, Wave World releases CD's, DVD's and other media, continually expanding their spectacular universe. Wave World members were: Harry Kessels, Gert van Santen and Rolf van Slooten, who share a common passion for music, computer graphics, science fiction and weirdness in general.

World has produced eight albums with modern Ambient Electronic Music and a DVD: "Species", "Structures", "Dimensions", "Another strange day on Gonxa", "Cloudseeder", "The Winds of Laax", "Tableaux" and "Hieroglyphs",



# transmission 13

## the edge of the world



I was honoured to be asked by electronic music maestro Transmission 13 (aka Mozz) ([transmission-13.bandcamp.com/album/the-edge-of-the-world](http://transmission-13.bandcamp.com/album/the-edge-of-the-world)) to review his new album. The Edge of the World is his seventh album and finds him collaborating with an accomplished international cast that includes Diane Marie Kloba on vocals, another TTD favourite Guitar PK on Northern Lights, drummer Antonio De Braga on After the rain plus others including New Apostles. If you enjoy inventive ambient soundscapes, samples of spoken word that expose both the frailty and fanaticism of human existence and ideology laced with accomplished musicianship and smart arranging skills, this album is for you.

### Tracks:

Wild Atlantic' featuring John 3:16  
Everything Colour

transmission 13  
the edge of the world



# Mathias Grassow & Michael Brückner

# POLAR VORTEX

Mathias and Michael first met in 2011 after finding out that they actually lived near to each other. They discovered that they shared not only their musical tastes, but also had similar spiritual leanings and drew from nearly the same sources of inspiration. In late 2016, Michael conducted an in-depth interview with Mathias, that reflected their conversations and that painted a large picture of Mathias' musical career, experiences, philosophy and insights. This interview was published in English, German and Russian on several places in the Internet...

<http://www.ambientvisions.com/mathiasgrassowkreuzblut.htm>  
From there, it was only a small step to the idea of a musical collaboration, and when Mathias received an invitation to contribute a track for a compilation by another Dutch label, Winter-Light (specialised in dark ambient), he asked Michael if he wanted to join him in this... Michael did, and more than an hour of music evolved, of which one track was used on the compilation "...that first season", released in January 2017.

<https://winter-light.bandcamp.com/track/the-fall-of-leafs>  
The next logical step was a full album, so Mathias and Michael met for an inspired and joyful recording session at Mathias' place in the late summer of 2017, where they not only used synths, but also recorded acoustic piano, guitar, cello and percussion, often heavily treated with all kind of effects.

The material recorded for the compilation and the music recorded in the session, plus a wealth of drones provided by Mathias and additional material recorded by Michael, and also a session with monochord player Doris Hach and singer Cilia di Ponte formed the pool from which, after all "Polar Vortex" was created. Some major changes in Michael's life (a new daytime job) caused considerable delay in the finishing and release of the album, but the result is worth the wait - a magic ambient journey that leads us from mystical regions of the north to realms even beyond...



# CANOPY OF STARS

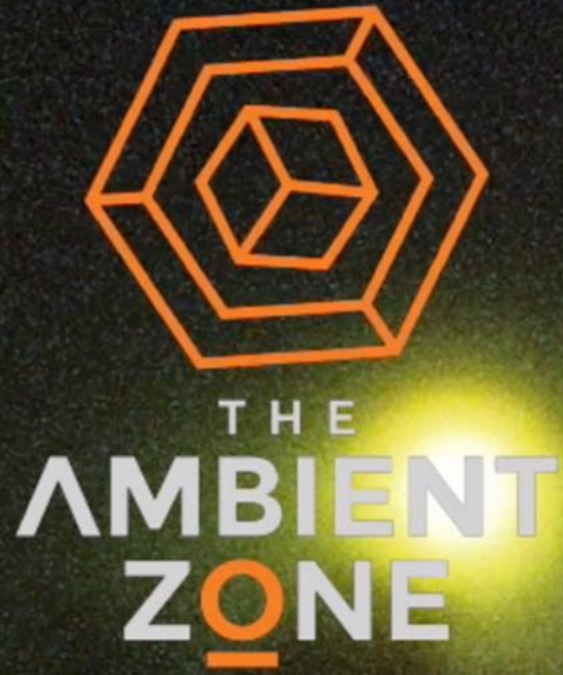
Canopy Of Stars  
Ambient music  
inspired by the  
coast and the stars.

Special thanks to  
Roger Snee and  
Alison Bossaert for  
their amazing space  
photography.

First appeared as  
part of the box set  
Nagual 2 on...txt  
Recordings

## first light To Twilight





# ECHASKEC

## Hyphae

“Hyphae is an ode to fungi and the mycorrhizal network or 'fungi internet' that connects individual plants together via hypha, transferring nutrients and information between each other. These underground networks are amazing - enabling the boosting of plant immune systems or killing of unwelcome plants by spreading toxic chemicals across the network. It's amazing what's going on underneath us all!”





"Hungarian electronic musician Fabók Péter has been dishing out a steady stream of albums since 2005. His stage name Tangram obviously points a finger in Tangerine Dream's general direction, and when you then start diving into this man's, by now, vast discography - there is indeed an emphasis on the melodically enhanced, breezy early 80s material from the original pioneers of the genre."

Tangram was a supporting band for Tangerine Dream, Ulrich Schnauss and Loom at their Budapest concerts. He was nominated for Schallwelle Awards (2011, 2012 - best international album, best international artist).

Tangram had 35+ live events in Hungary (Sziget Fesztivál, A38, Cokxpon Ambient Cafe etc)

Recorded live in Budapest (10th January 2019) as an improvisation session at an exhibition opening titled "Dream Sequence" showing photos of Peter Baranyi

# TANGRAM

## Dream Sequence Part II







SynG@te

SynGate Records presents  
Berlin School & more of  
Electronic Music available on  
genuine CD/CD-R or for  
download

# COLIN RAYMENT

FRBs are Fast Radio Bursts. Only recently, very unusual repeating signals, coming from a source about 1.5 billion light years away have been detected. These signals have been picked up from a distant galaxy and so far, little is known about this cosmic puzzle. The music of Colin Rayment takes this event as its composing base.

# FRB





Multi-instrumentalist Chris Snidow has been playing music since the late 1960's, having been based through the years in Texas, California, Holland, France and northern Africa. He has played various styles of music and has been in bands that have opened for the likes of Ike and Tina Turner, Sonny & Cher, The Mothers Of Invention, Chuck Berry and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band.

# From The Foundation Of The World

This album most decidedly is a concept album, nearly on par with Tubular Bells. Echoes of Pink Floyd, Jarre, Stearns, Lasos and Shreeve are tossed in for good measure.

Snidow is a talented, versatile musician, just rough enough around the edges to make his music fresh and interesting.

Professional composition, engineering and all the rest make this a debut album of the year. Play it loud!

1996. JW / Synthesis

## CHRIS SNIDOW

The new cd from Texas composer Chris Snidow, embodies all of these traits and more. From the dreamy Bladerunner inspired piece "In the Fullness of Time", to incredible majestic pieces like the epic "Firmament of the Heavens" and "All the Tribes of Earth", Snidow demonstrates an impressive command over a variety of compositional materials. It is an album that bears up well to repeated listenings, and can actually get quite addictive. Chris has blended the best elements of early eighties grandiose e-music, i.e. "China", "Oxygene" and "Silk Road", with world instruments, acoustic timbres, and a much broader and imaginative tonal palette with the new audio tools of the nineties.

Snidow has developed an unerring sense of what constitutes a great melodic hook. Combine this with sophisticated writing/arranging, and incredible patches and samples, and you've got a richly rewarding album. Ben Kettlewell





Glåsbird returns following the debut EP 'Drift Stations' which was a digital only release on Whitelabrecs just prior to Christmas last year. The eagerly awaited full-length debut album is something that this currently anonymous artist has carefully shaped over a lengthy period of time and it is entitled Grønland. Those looking to the themes of the North Pole and travel through the treacherous Arctic Circle which were contained within Drift Stations, will see a pattern of travel or rather, migration developing. Next stop — Greenland, the world's largest island as well as one of the most uninhabited landmasses on the planet, which is thanks to stark temperatures and the permanent ice sheet which occupies most of this land.

Whitelabrecs UK based experimental record label established in 2016, specialising in highly limited runs of white-label-style vinyl-effect CDs. Announced as one of A Closer Listen's best labels of 2017:

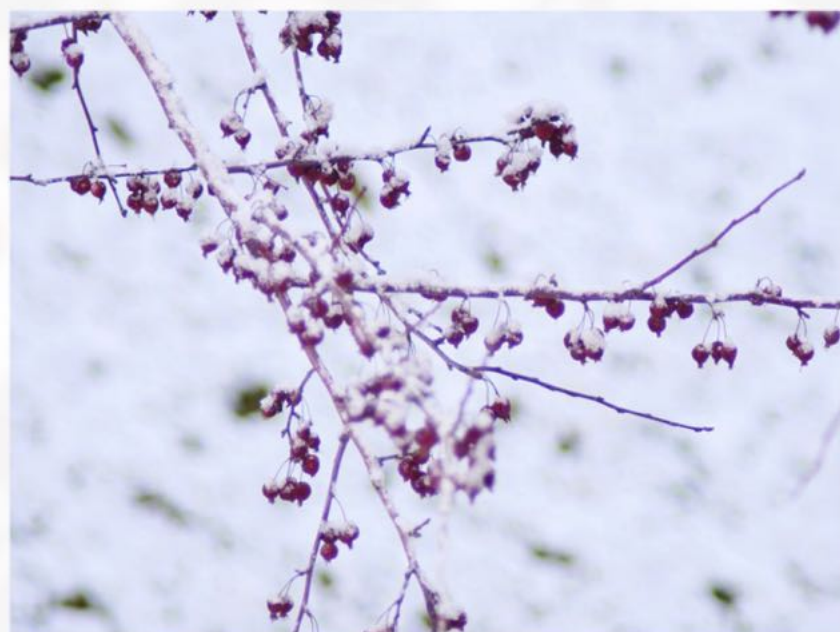
# Grønland glåsbird

Glåsbird imagined that they were assigned the task of scoring the soundtrack to a film about Greenland and spent a great deal of time researching the subject. Hours of documentaries, drone helicopter footage, NASA and satellite images, Instagram traveller accounts, 360° photos, web articles and maps were surveyed, to the point where this artist felt sufficiently immersed in this sub-zero but beautiful land. One such traveller/photographer who has physically witnessed the splendour of Greenland is Lennart Pagel, who kindly provided the cover image; the shot not only captures the essence of this country with its iced mountains, freezing lake and primary-coloured cabin but also there is a bold starkness which lends itself to this soundtrack.





**Bing Satellites is a prolific ambient shoegaze musician and producer from Manchester, UK. I also make music under the guises of The Lovely Moon, The Ambient Visitor, Kowalski Room and Blocker. Currently, I am playing keyboards in Daniel Land's live band.**



## **Bing Satellites    Frozen in Time** **Atmospheres & Textures volume one**

**The first in a new series of deeply atmospheric ambient albums.**

**Slow and drifting. Peaceful ambient soundscapes to soothe your soul.**

**The music on this album, like much of my music, is completely improvised and recorded live.**

**The starting point for this music is the sound of my now ancient guitar played with the ebow. I start with a blank canvas, play a few notes and let the music grow. As these are live, improvised recordings, they can be a little rough around the edges.**



"Vidna Obmana's LANDSCAPE IN OBSCURITY is an impressionistic study of isolation, memory and lament. Somber saxophone leads and floating flute lines (by Italy's Caprio Trifoglio and Diego Borotti) mix with clouds of floating electronic ambience - to evoke a feeling of isolation a cold city gives off in the dead of night." - Chuck van Zyl/STAR'S END



Album description from 1999 Hypnos release:  
Explorations into unmapped landscapes...

VidnaObmana is Europe's foremost practitioner of atmospheric and tribal ambient sounds, and already has nearly twenty CD releases to his credit. He is perhaps best known for his collaborations with Steve Roach, including CAVERN OF SIRENS, WELL OF SOULS and ASCENSION OF SHADOWS, but solo works such as the recent CROSSING THE TRAIL and RIVER OF APPEARANCES make a powerful and unique artistic statement.

LANDSCAPE IN OBSCURITY, a long, exploratory driftscape, integrates spacious and atmospheric performances on flute and saxophone (by Italy's Capriolo Trifoglio and Diego Borotti) with the familiar sonic clouds of vidnaObmana's own electronic and acoustic instrument mix. This is a journey of almost 70 minutes of luminous, airy ambience. Smooth, subtle and unobtrusive, yet at the same time sonically complex and illuminating, this CD works fantastically on "repeat" mode for hours on end. Wonderful for meditation or as background for sleep or creative work, this is one of vidnaObmana's most minimal and truly "ambient" pieces in recent years.

vidnaObmana Landscape in Obscurity



ELNATH PROJECT is the solo project of the Italian musician Alessandro Ciccarelli. A Trumpeter with an academic background who has played over the years in several bands and with several genres. The Album "~", released by Focused Silence, is his first solo album and it collects some of the recent compositions following his reflection on the idea of the composer Giacinto Scelsi (1905-1988)

*"Music cannot exist without sound. Sound exists by itself without music. Music evolves over time. The sound is timeless. It's the sound that matters. Sound is strength."* - Giacinto Scelsi

# ELNATH PROJECT ~

So, this is an academic album from a gifted musician. But, where people associate academia with the dry and dusty libraries of universities, this album is rich with variety and ... well, almost biological. Elnath Project has a real gift. This gift enables him to use the finest learnings from musical academia yet present a peach of an avant-garde album. A fruit that ripens with each listen.







## Monsoon Offerings

### Lankow & Brückner feat. Suzannah Moon

Berlin-based percussionist and soundscaper Volker Lankow, who learned his drumming skills in Africa and the Middle East, first met ambient and electronica artist Michael Brückner when taking part as a guest musician in a public rehearsal (basically a small concert including a jam session) by Brückner and another musical friend and collaborator, electronic composer Mathias Brüssel, back in 2015. From then on, Lankow and Brückner worked together on a number of further occasions, including concerts in Berlin (with centrozoon's Bernhard Woestheinrich), Offenbach and Mainz (both with Bridge to Imla\*) and Oirschot and Bocholt (with P'Faun\*).

Soon, the idea of doing an album together suggested itself, and Lankow picked some yet unreleased tracks from Brückner's archives (which had shortly be presented on SoundCloud and other platforms) and added his amazing percussion playing and new layers of sound to them.

While this was still work in process, Australian singer and flute player Suzannah Moon aka MegaMoonMaiden (who had already collaborated with Brückner on his album "All The Pieces Fit Forever") signaled interest in joining the creative flow - resulting in amazing contributions on the album's longest track, "Monsoon Offering / The Red Lamb".







## Sound for Sound's Sake

Doug Lynner

Bay Area synthesist, Doug Lynner, performs experimental electronic music regularly in concert and weekly on KZSU 90.1FM as co-host of the Bloop and Quack Show.

Doug is known for his intimate, "In-The-Circuit" performance style. That style has given birth to his "Living Synthesis" compositions - part fixed composition, part improvisation, and part circuit immersion.

His process is to create unique instruments for each performance that are self-active and cross-influencing in which he participates through direct interaction with each instrument's autonomic activities through their knobs, switches and patch cords.

Basing his aesthetic upon the notion of "sound for sound's sake" he explores the intrinsic value of sound through mixtures of ambient, avant-garde, rhythmic and soundscape genres.

Doug received a BFA in Music Composition from California Institute of The Arts where his mentors were Morton Subotnick, Harold Budd, James Tenney, Leonid Hambro, and, Nicholas England.

He was the editor and publisher of Synapse Magazine. Modular Tonalism was performed on the "Mystery Serge."

# M O D U L A R

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When Dark Clouds Dance: C Tonic

Aeolian Arabesque: C Tonic

Lydian Agreement: C Tonic

Form Cycles: D Tonic

Not Here Not There: Bb Tonic

Evolution Number Nine: D Tonic

Terra Near Sol: C Tonic

Chatter: E Tonic

Voltage Phase: C Tonic

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# L Y N N E R

a neatnetnoise drop