

Electronic Press Kit : Axel Zaren / Moonlooker / DeepFlux Records

CHARACTERS :

Axel Zaren is a Canadian artist currently based in Paris, France. He makes Neo-Romantic Electronic Music for melancholic aliens, dandy robots and misfit humans.

Moonlooker is the ambient project of Axel Zaren , under which he explores more abstract and experimental soundscapes.

DeepFlux Records is the house that shelters them.

ALBUMS :

« Hidden, Revealed » by Axel Zaren. Released December 2014

A lost soundtrack to a parallel world where Emily Bronte and Kraftwerk have been propelled into a futuristic David Lynch daydream (nightmare?)

Axel Zaren's brand of « Techno-Romantic » electronic music conjures images of solitary mechanical androids writing melancholic love letters the old-fashioned way, with ink and paper and sealing wax. A retro-futuristic world where said letters may never make it to their beloved recipients, but are still snooped on by the present listeners of this EP.

Messages in sound sent from inhabitants of the past to the future and vice-versa, trying to build bridges and links between worlds...

« Side Effects » by Axel Zaren. Released May 2016

After the dynamic and cinematic melancholia of "Hidden, Revealed" , Axel Zaren follows up with the more ambient and understated "Side Effects", haunted with quaint neoclassical overtones. A sonic place of introversion and reflection about loss and acceptance, triggered in part by the recent death of a family member. Or the enchantment of disenchantment.

« White Bird on Black Snow » by Moonlooker. Released October 2016

The idea of the album started many years ago, in a small haven in the north of Quebec, after a snowstorm. Looking out of the window of the isolated house, stretching afar was nothing but an infinite white blanket with a single black dot on it. It took a long moment before he realized that the motionless dot was a bird. The vision was both serene and menacing. From there started the idea of 4 variations on a theme . « Black Bird on White Snow » « White Bird on Black Snow » « White Bird on White Snow » « Black Bird on Black Snow »

« Forever Mountain » by Moonlooker. Released February 2018

Extending on the monolithic and gliding synth sounds of the previous one, "Forever Mountain" adds symphonic, modern classical tones. Subdued yet reaching out to a higher and always receding destination, like climbing a never ending mountain. Inspiration for this album started with being obsessed for a while with Caspar David Friedrich's painting *Wanderer above the Sea of Fog* . The painting inspired Zaren's creation of a series of 2D images (some of them can be seen on Axel Zaren's Instagram feed) and one of them became the cover art for the album. From this, flowed the atmosphere and ideas of « Forever Mountain ».

INFLUENCES :

Axel Zaren's influences are not strictly musical, but includes other artistic expressions. Among them the words of writers such as Jorge Luis Borges, Julio Cortazar, Marcel Proust, etc.. Film makers such as Michelangelo Antonioni, Stanley Kubrick, Andrei Tarkovsky, Alain Resnais, etc.. , Painters such as Klimt, Chirico, Magritte,... Choreographers such as Carolyn Carlson, Anne Teresa De Keersmaecker,.. Contemporary artists such as Bill Viola, Duane Michals, .. and of course musicians, early encounters with the sounds of Brian Eno, Tangerine Dream, Harold Budd, Vangelis to Bjork, Cocteau Twins, David Sylvian to Arvo Part, Bach, Keith Jarrett, Philip Glass, to various memories of the soundscapes of cities as well as nature.

Trivia :

- Among other past projects : an album released under the moniker Fizzmatik .
« Chaos is the new order » has tonalities of techno as well as alternative rock and electropop. www.fizzmatik.com

Also the complete soundtrack of a small independant french film, wich was unfortunately never released (the movie as well as the soundtrack). A couple of tracks have been reworked and re-emerged in the Fizzmatik album.

- There is a track in the album « Side Effects » wich reveals an embeded message if visualized with a spectrum analyser...

VIDEOS : (All videos directed by Axel Zaren)

- as Axel Zaren. From the album « Hidden, Revealed »

- « I hear you, now » : <https://youtu.be/jpqL9GldnLk>

- « Speak to the stars » : <https://youtu.be/t3BTlxhbijl>

- as Axel Zaren. From the album « Side Effects » :

A collection of 8 videos based on the same concept : a very slow fade-in or fade-out on a single photography dating from late 19th or early 20th century.

The full playlist of videos is here : [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLq50Gx471Q7vlqAoqycT-62sb7aJjcGVR)

[list=PLq50Gx471Q7vlqAoqycT-62sb7aJjcGVR](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLq50Gx471Q7vlqAoqycT-62sb7aJjcGVR)

- as Fizzmatik. From the album « Chaos is the new order »

- « Edo » : <https://youtu.be/ZAkH5wceBas>

- as Moonlooker:

2 hypnotic videos , created as each other's negative image.

- « White Bird On Black Snow » <https://youtu.be/1CO-5DsoRq4>

- « Black Bird On White Snow » <https://youtu.be/CayyRUj1qS0>

LINKS :

Website : www.axelzaren.com

Email: contact@axelzaren.com

DeepFlux Records : deepflux.bandcamp.com

Twitter : www.twitter.com/axelzaren

Facebook : www.facebook.com/axelzaren

Instagram : www.instagram.com/axelzaren

Youtube : www.youtube.com/axelzaren

The End (?)