ANAPHORIA "FOOTPATHS AND TRADE ROUTES"





LP @ 33 RPM [42 min]

Track listing : A1. Zephyros A2. Hierophone A341 (extract)

B1. Ostaelo (+loop)

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- ini.itu is releasing the third LP of its catalogue, a 3 tracks album assembled by Kraig Grady under the moniker Anaphoria.
- Kraig Grady is a composer and a sound artist. He has been described by David Toop as an Ethnographic Surrealist. Born in California in 1952 (of Ojibwe Indian ascent), now residing in Australia where as a citizen of Anaphoria he is responsible for the Austronesian Outpost of Anaphoria and one of its most prominent organs, the Office of Cultural Liaisons.

After mercurial composition studies (a.o with Byong-Kon Kim) and improvising for a while under the inspiration of Stockhausen's ensemble works, an epiphanic performance of Harry Partch's U. S. Highball that he attended in 1976 led him to unexplored paths. The meeting of Erv Wilson, another pioneer of microtonalism, opened for him the door to alternative tunings with Erv Wilson's elaborate system of "hexanies" and larger multi-dimensional tonal geometries. This led him to compositions in the just intonation resources of Wilson's combination-product sets and meta-slendro. Kraig Grady also started simultaneously building its own mesotonal / xenharmonic instruments (metallophones, marimbas, hammered dulcimers and reed organs) and assembling them into ensembles. His current work makes use of mallet instruments tuned to Wilson's Meta-Slendro, a greatly expanded Slendro-like scale. His compositions include accompaniments for silent films and shadow puppeteer plays. His works have been presented as part of the LA Philharmonic's American Music Weekend as well as New Music America.

The discovery of the island of Anaphoria provided him since the mid 90's the opportunity to make use of a "visionary geographic" inner space in which the music he wanted to do and share was pre-existent. For extensive information on Anaphoria, please consult the North American Embassy Of Anaphoria Island : www.anaphoria.com

Contrasting with his ensemble compositions, this ini.itu LP presents 2 solo compositions inspired by the traditions of Anaphoria and one meta-track assembled from multiple ensemble takes. With tunes strongly reminiscent of gamelan instruments, the album unfurl elegant and refined tracks of hypnotic and nocturnal beauty, rich with soothing and gloomy overtones. This album fills the room with simultaneously austere, restrained and peacefully complex reverberations, suspending the sense of time.

So, where you could file this record ? : next to Lou Harrison, Ben Johnston, LaMonte Young and Harry Partch if you opt for the contemporary/minimalist leanings; or side by side with Nonesuch Explorer south-east asian gamelan records, for obvious reasons. Alternatively, it would not seem wrong to find it a place next to isolationist bands such as Seefeel, Main, Rapoon, or Zoviet France, if you're responsive to its dark ambient and ritual tinges.

Quotes about Kraig Grady :

- "Where classical utopian literature most often employs the vehicle of the imaginative voyage, Grady employs the vehicle of music" (Bruce Gehiere)
- "To listen to the music of Anaphoria is to be swept up by a music that installs alterity at the heart of political, social, and spiritual relations" (Bruce Gehiere)
- "With textural music I felt that to make it work I needed more and more instruments to get more and more interesting sounds. With Partch's stuff, even with very simple things, it was much more dramatic and the range of expression was much wider" (Kraig Grady)

Selective discography :

Music From The Island Of Anaphoria	BZang Editions, Tiny Organ	1994	CD
From The Interiors Of Anaphoria	BZang Editions	1995	CD
The Creation Of The Worlds	BZang Editions	1997	CD
The Stolen Stars: An Anaphoria Dance Drama	Archive Of Anaphoria	2003	CD
Without R & R.	Experimental Musical Research	2005	3" CD-R
Orenda	Archive Of Anaphoria	2006	3" CD-R
Beyond The Windows Perhaps Among The Podcorn	Transparency	2007	CD

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www.iniitu.net www.anaphoria.com