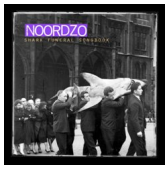
Noordzo - Shark Funeral Songbook (2017)



1.Aiwass Says 05:29 2.Strange Highway 07:08 3.Upper Centralia 07:11 4.onna 04:47 5.Holy Laughter 03:57 6.Dpep's Rag 04:32 7.Lower Centralia 04:36 8.Nasaqalau 02:50 9.Tituba's Garden Party 05:12 10.Ancient Oceans 08:09 Mike Noordzy - electric bass, upright bass, contra alto clarinet, fender VI, guitar, piano, organ, harmonica, voice, percussion, sounds Chris Welcome - guitar, synthesizer, percussion, voice Michael Winnicki - drums, percussion Greg Riss - conga, percussion, bells Jake Schlaerth - keyboards, computers, sounds Turner Matthews - wench, percussion, voice, sounds Jon Francis - violin Anthony Ware - alto saxophone Jonathan Moritz - tenor and soprano saxophone David Freeman - tabla, bells, percussion

When a shark dies it stops swimming and falls to the ocean floor. Shark Funeral Songbook is a human projection of a mental soundtrack for both the dying shark and it’s extant surroundings. The basic tracks of SFS were recorded in a haunted century-old schoolhouse in rural Pennsylvania in early 2017 by a core group of six musicians combining the bands El Noordzo and Triangulus. The music was composed while thinking about pyramids, staring at cats, and internalizing the rhythms of marine invertebrates. Much appreciation to Don Cherry, David Lynch and the Velvet Underground.

1. Aiwass Says - tabla courtesy of David Freeman (Outer Bridge Ensemble, Biryani Boys, etc.). Aiwass is the voice of non-corporeal intelligence.

2. Strange Highway - featuring the masterful tenor saxophonic wizardry of Jonathan Moritz (Secret Tempo, Evil Eye, etc.). The bassline falls in the Laswell/Wobble zone of dark reggae while the melody conjures a Native American-like folk phrase with a shade of Gagaku.

3. Upper Centralia - reverb tank, babies crying, wolves howling, clockwork orange, Pharaoh Sanders, Pennsylvania's burning.

4. Donna - the make-out song. Bells by Greg Riss (El Noordzo, Triangulus, etc.), soprano saxophone by Jonathan Moritz and further sound design/vocals/creepiness by Turner Matthews and Jake Schlaerth of Triangulus. Donna Hayward or Donna Martin, either way, you get the idea.

5. Holy Laughter - layers of disturbing percussion. Hypnotics via fender precision bass driven by Mike Noordzy (El Noordzo, Mothguts, Intense Men, Lesley Gore, etc.). David Freeman's in there, so is the alto saxophone of Anthony Ware (Mothguts, Theo Croker, Dee Dee Bridgewater, etc.).

6. Apep's Rag - Swingy go-go jazzy fun. Apep is the Egyptian god of chaos. Anthony Ware is heard in dual solos that have nothing to do with Robbie Krieger, well, almost nothing.

7. Lower Centralia - Pennsylvania is still on fire. The man in the red suit. Brown Rice for dinner and Bitter Funeral Beer for dessert. This one sports the guitar gnarls (guitarnarls?) of a one Chris Welcome (Mothguts, Flying Luttenbachers, Sand, El Noordzo, etc.).

8. Nasaqalau - is a village in Fiji where, back in the day, a high priest would summon a great white shark thru chanting. This white shark would then lead a parade of 50 or so other sharks into shallow waters to be slaughtered by the villagers (using coconut branches) as an offering to the shark god. The white shark would not be harmed. Tonal clusters by Jake Schlaerth (who can also be heard playing the mysterious glass armonica in the Marvel comics Wolverine blockbuster movie Logan).

9. Tituba's Garden Party - droney rock in the peoples key (G). Saxophony by Anthony Ware, viol-ence by Jon Francis (Out Like Lambs, Daughter Vision, etc.). Lose yourself in the relentless beat and hypnotic depths of drummer Michael Winnicki (El Noordzo, El Americano, etc.).

10. Ancient Oceans - Triangulus is all up in this one, so is Anthony so is David. This tune was

spliced up from a 20 minute jam in C that began with a long chant to the Hindu goddess Kali. I'd like to think it worked. --- nachtrecords.com

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