

Fear of a Digital Planet

A Portrait of Canada's Electronic Underground

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Brief:

This compilation features a line-up of intelligent, forward-minded and delightedly Canadian artists. Thematically removed from the often cold and unwelcoming electronic soundscape, the songs bring progressive and innovative ideas to the fore, without sacrificing pleasant, playful and, invariably, *musical* elements in the process.

Vinyl Republik's roster is proudly represented here alongside several like-minded friends, cohorts, and lovers – some established, some only being discovered now. With a nod to the past but with thoughts of the future, *Fear Of A Digital Planet* aims to reflect the eclectic diversity that exists in Canada's electronic music exports. Many of the tracks contained involve vocal elements, traditional instrumentation and verse-chorus structures, whereas others range from brittle beep suites to abstract, throbbing walls of sound. *Fear of a Digital Planet* represents the emerging scene of electronic performers who reject the maligned tradition of gawky solo artists standing behind the ghostly light of their Powerbooks, focusing on actual performance, bringing their music to the audience in new and engaging ways.

File under: indie-electronic, down tempo, pop.

Some highlights include:

#1) Original Recipe- "The Chase"; One half from San Francisco (Steve Mason), and one half from Toronto (Dean Williams of **QuasiMojo**), Original Recipe lead off with this bass heavy head-thumper. This duo is set to release their full-length, *Noisette*, later this year on Vinyl Republik.

#2) Sinewave- "Life Day"; Some consider Vancouver's Sinewave Western Canada's most underrated musician. *Life Day* is representative of his electro-gaze sound with its lush and deeply layered guitars and synths.

#5) Vitaminsforyou- "Leave my Head Around"; Arguably the best known artist on the list, Vitaminsforyou (Bryce Kushner) delivers a retro, new wave, electro ditty. Clever use of the drum machine, and catchy vocals highlight this dance-floor shaker.

#6) Hexes and Ohs- "Alive Until Saturday Night"; This track brings to mind German label - **Morr Music**, with its smooth bass lines and accompanying synths. The lead vocals of Edmund Lam stick in your head and demand the repeat button be pressed.

#12) Andrew Duke- "Dirty Sugar Water"; The veteran producer from Halifax contributes a solid techno number which once started, hardly lets up.

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