



The new **Sensitive Chaos** CD **Seeker After Patterns** was released on June 7, 2011. This fourth solo effort from Atlanta-based producer and performer **Jim Combs** contains eight new tracks (plus two radio edits) extending the eclectic, electronic palette he established on his first three albums, **Leak**, **Emerging Transparency**, and **Meditation Modulation Manipulation**.

"The album title is a multi-entendre and as it relates to my music, the new CD explores figures of patterns in different settings, both studio and live recordings of both ambient and sequenced material, on my own and in collaboration with some talented friends from around the world."

Combs once again collaborated with Ohio-based soprano saxophonist **Brian Good** for the title track "Seeker After Patterns" and also incorporated Good's EWI (Electronic Wind Instrument) soundscapes to the album's closer "Simon Stilites Dreams of Rain (Chaotic Remix)", which also features co-writer **Tim Walters** (San Francisco) Super Collider sound design/percussion, Helsinki multi-instrumentalist **Otso Pakarinen** on synthesizers, bells, and sound effects, and Atlanta indie rock stalwart **John McNicholas** on surf and lead guitars. "A Piece of Stars", one of the album's live recordings, is an improvised collaboration from the recent April 30, 2011 City Skies Electronic Music Festival with Nashville musician **Tony Gerber** on EWI and

synthesizer, Milwaukee's **Paul Vnuk Jr.** on electronic percussion, and Atlanta's **Christian Birk** (aka Suicide Lane) on synthesizers.

Multimedia artist **Demi Pietchell** contributed extraordinary photocollages for the album cover art. "Demi's work is incredibly inspiring and truly helped me solidify the overall album concept, mastering, and sequencing of the tracks. I have been staring at this artwork for months now, and keep finding something new. Hopefully the tunes are like that, too."

ABOUT THE SONGS

The title track "**Seeker After Patterns**" was originally composed for and performed live at Atlanta's EyeDrum art performance space in April 2009, about three months after the release of the *Emerging Transparency* CD. The version here has an added middle section, and features another in a long line of wonderful signature soprano saxophone solos by Brian Good.

"This is another one of those homage pieces like the ones on *Emerging Transparency*, but this time, the inspiration was Jean Michel Jarre. Though it sounds nothing like it, I was definitely influenced by Oxygene (Part IV) with a little Pink Floyd thrown into the middle."

"**Warm Glow of the Atomic Fire**" is a drone piece with slow modulations and evolving harmonic repetition.

"**A Piece of Stars**" is from an improvised performance with Christian Birk (Suicide Lane), Tony Gerber, and Paul Vnuk Jr recorded live at the recent April 30, 2011 City Skies Electronic Music Festival at Kavarna in Decatur, GA. This section of the performance featured Jim's sequencer work, Christian's ambient pads and effects, Tony's lead Electronic Wind Instrument (EWI) melodies and atmospherics, and Paul's digital percussion.

"**L'Ascension**" is an excerpt of a January 10, 2009 performance at a City Skies Electronic Music Event at Kavarna. The entire piece was composed using sounds from a Roland JD-800 through a Lexicon Jamman looper, with a JD-800 solo as well. "I liked the way the solo turned out for this one."

"**Sensitive Chaos**" is a remixed and re-mastered track originally composed and recorded on 4-track reel-to-reel in the mid-1980s in Brooklyn, NY using a Roland TR-606 drum machine, a Vox Phantom iV bass, and Takamine 12-string electro-acoustic guitar. Four tracks, four live takes.

"**Thoughts of Home in a Sand Storm**" is an excerpt of a live performance from May 26, 2007, this time at Aurora Coffee in Atlanta, GA. "I liked this solo, too, even the mistakenly looped first part."

"**Psychic Twins of Gemini**" is an excerpt of a live performance from April 10, 2010 at a City Skies Electronic Music Event. "This was one of my first recordings using my Yamaha Tenori-On and the switch-over from my Sequentix P3 sequencer to the Tenori-On had an interesting jump/stutter quality, even though both sequencers were set to the same tempo. Psychic happy twins go to the toy carnival."

And closing out the album is "**Simon Stilites Dreams of Rain (Chaotic Remix)**", a remix of a tune originally done by Tim Walters and Jim Combs as part of their 2005 Phosphene Grid collaboration (<http://doubtfulpalace.com/artists/PhospheneGrid/index.html>). This remix went back to the original tracks and added new guitar tracks from John McNicholas (The Low Days, The Good Graces, Supervisor of the Loveless Average), synth and sound effects from Finland's Otso Pakarinen (Ozone Player), and EWI tracks from Brian Good. "I don't know why, perhaps John's surf guitar part, but I get this David Crosby *If Only I Could Remember My Name/Cowboy Song* feel from this track. Throwing together such disparate influences and musical backgrounds yielded a really nice result. It is definitely two steps beyond ambient, however."

With the exception of his collaborators' original tracks, sessions for the CD were done at Combs' Common Sound Studio in Decatur, GA. "I rely upon my custom Sequentix P3 sequencer for creating most of the initial compositions, then record track-by-track into MOTU Digital Performer for arrangements and mixing. The sounds come mostly from my current live rig of a Roland JD-800, Novation SuperNova, Roland JV-1080, and Korg Electribe drum machines, plus my collection of old hardware keyboards like my Yamaha CS-50 and Fender Rhodes. And there's a few softsynths in the mix, mostly MOTU Electric Keys, Propellerheads Reason, and Korg Analog Legacy."

ABOUT SENSITIVE CHAOS

Sensitive Chaos, a solo project of Atlanta-based producer and electronic musician Jim Combs, was voted Atlanta's "Best Local Electronic Act" 2007-2008 and Runner-Up in 2009 by readers of Creative Loafing, has received several ASCAPPlus awards, and has gotten radio airplay from both US and international public, college, satellite, and internet radio stations.

2009's *Emerging Transparency* received national airplay on Public Radio's Hearts of Space and Echoes syndicated programs.

2006's *Leak* was the first album from Sensitive Chaos and was selected as a "Top Visionary Music of 2007" by KKUP 91.5 FM in Cupertino, CA, and as New Age Reporter's "Top 12 Best Ambient/Spacemusic/Electronica Recordings of 2006".

Sensitive Chaos music is available at CDBaby.com, iTunes, Amazon, and record stores in the Atlanta area.

Information on Sensitive Chaos can be found at sensitivechaos.com.

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