



bonges

Benoît Albert - music

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Pierre Cambon - aquatint

Songes [Dreams] - Graphic and musical variations

A collaboration between artist/engraver Pierre Cambon and musician/composer Benoît Albert

In an electro-acoustic interpretation of Pierre Cambon's engravings, composer Benoît Albert creates 12 musical landscapes depicting a series of sleep cycles, with blurred boundaries, where reality and dream mingle in an imaginary world. This music, inspired by art, decisively turns toward research that touches on human intimacy. In that place of dreams, beyond the physical body, is the presence that tries to transcribe, to reveal itself on the surface of Cambon's copper plate aquatints. Within the music and the prints, Albert and Cambon have redefined the classic theme of a model asleep, as a discreet homage to mystery, femininity, and sensuality.

Alterity(s)

«These engravings, etchings and aquatint, are talking about you, me, and leave us open for singularities of the universal. The individual, group, crowds, a social relationship, of desires and mortality...»

- Pierre Cambon

THE COMPOSITION PROCESS:

Six months before *Songes*, in may 2008, I was premiering the «Ring Triptych», my first opus featuring guitar and electronic music. At that state of my compositional evolution I didn't dare to really mix electronic music and guitar.

With *Songes*, because of the subject and with my previous experience I felt the need to treat the electronic as a true chamber music instrument. I spent three months improvising with a steel string guitar in the studio and recording all the sessions. I also recorded my voice and playing the guitar with different items, such as a spoon. With the computer, using the samples from the recording in modular synthesizers, I elaborated musical landscapes (Songe 1 or 4) as well as melodically and rhythmically interacting ideas (Songe 3 or 6).

The main scenario was to build 3 evolving sleep cycles of 4 stages each, as the science describes it in theory. Like a movie maker I edited all the «rushes» and built a coherent scenario, working on the ideas of time, cycles, rhythm, space and images.

- Benoît Albert

This artwork was originally published as a limited edition portfolio, a total of only 25, containing 5 original «eau forte» and a CD.

Recorded, mixed, edited and mastered in 2008 at Nano Studio - France
by Benoît ALBERT

Guitar: Lowden O21