

The Crystal Sun Landscape

Release date: 31st May 2008
12 Apostles APCD03



12 Apostles are thrilled to be able to present Landscape, the debut studio recording from nu-prog pioneers The Crystal Sun. Landscape is steeped in a hazy late 60s/early 70s vibe meshed with a thoroughly 21st century take on the state of the planet. Its epic scope takes in the full gamut from delicate pastoral passages to motorik riffage and mellotron freak-out, united by a singular dedication to crafting a warm and all enveloping sound.

"Landscape is not short of ambition. The good news is that it lives up to all this and more. The Crystal Sun is shining bright."
Analogue Phaze

Recorded using a mixture of vintage and virtual instruments the band have forged an album that transcends mere nostalgia and instead pushes forward to explore contemporary themes such as alienation from and disharmony with the environment. Each track is carefully crafted, hinting at the old forms of progressive rock, psychedelia, and krautrock but delivered with a passionately modern sensibility. The Crystal Sun have fused these disparate elements to create a balanced, coherent work that enthrals and delights.

Despite releasing Landscape we here at 12 Apostles know little of substance about the musicians behind it, having originally been approached in 2005 by a contact in the rare record scene who had recently been invited to a small rehearsal space to see a - as then un-named - band who were looking for a record label.

His enthusiastic account of their prog-tinged soundscapes and their insistence on anonymity left us intrigued. Despite asking for demo or session tapes over the following months nothing was forthcoming and eventually we were forced to conclude that the band had either broken up or decided to take their music elsewhere. Cut to early January 2008 when a package arrives in the post containing a finished master and a brief note to say that the band were finally happy with their labours and had christened themselves The Crystal Sun. It only took us one listen to know we had a classic on our hands and to waste no time in getting it released.



"Freewheeling a sublime execution and inter blending of psychedelics, krautrock and progressive rock motifs whilst bathing the matrix with swells of ambient textures is disturbingly addictive as far as debut releases go that it could comfortably sit amid a record collections peppered liberally by outings by the likes of Amon Dull II, Kraftwerk, Tangerine Dream and Van Der Graf Generator while being equally compliant and more than a match for the current crop of ambient / psyche / atmospheric outfits such as Orb, Porcupine Tree and Sigur Ros. "
LOSINGTODAY

In keeping with its musical aesthetic Landscape is presented in a delux gatefold sleeve (complete with paper inner-sleeve) featuring specially commissioned paintings from Barcelona's Pablo El Cuchillo.

www.12-apostles.com :: www.myspace.com/thecrystalsun

Contact 12 Apostles at: mail@12-apostles.com 12 Apostles releases are distributed via Cargo (UK) and Iris Digital Distribution (USA)