



## **[FbL014] SAVARAN - RESONANCES**

mastered by madSavVy Productions

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cover design by Leonardo Rosado

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### **Short Biography:**

Savaran is Mark Walters from Wales, UK. He is an electronic musician, sound designer, sound artist and full-time archaeologist recording from his small home studio on the Welsh border near Shrewsbury.

His music crosses many of the electronic genres but leans toward the ambient, experimental, electro-acoustic, cinematic and soundscaping styles of production. Inspiration comes from many directions including the random daily events that life throws at you, landscapes, environment, atmosphere, geology, astronomy, past cultures, or just the indefinable need to make music. The music itself is created on a variety of digital and analog instruments and blended with field recordings, sampled sounds and an array of effects. The end result is a textured palette of sounds derived from visual and audible references which explore our own world and the universe beyond at the macro and micro levels.

### **Resonances EP**

Resonances is my fourth netlabel release over the last year and the five track EP is a deeply personal exploration of some of the places, events and phenomena which have resonated with me throughout life.

The track called The Forest relates to my time spent in the Forest of Dean where I lived while I was working as an archaeologist in Gloucester for four years. Simply called 'The Forest' by locals it is a place of great history, mystery and sylvan beauty with a strong sense of local tradition and independence, which is still prevalent even now in our fast changing times. I wanted to capture an essence of the deep sense of place and rich cultural history in sound mixed with an element of eerie mystery.

Aurora describes in sound the visual phenomena of aurora. As an amateur astronomer I have been fascinated with aurora for years, but have yet to see them myself. Hopefully that will be remedied soon when we visit Iceland next year. I take images of activity on the sun on a regular basis and the connections between sun and earth fascinate me. So this track follows particles blasted out of the suns atmosphere until they collide with

earth's magnetic field and blossom into one of nature's most spectacular visual phenomena.

Tectonic is a timely piece given current events in Japan due to earthquakes and the tsunami. It was written before the Japanese earthquake took place but actually uses sonified seismic data from around the world. Micah Frank who designs sound for Puremagnetik had been working on the process of sonifying earthquake data to generate musical sounds. He kindly made his sounds accessible and produced an instrument for Ableton Live, which could manipulate the sounds. I used this instrument on the track and it produces this awesome room-filling sub bass sound that occasionally pushes through in the track and will certainly shake your speakers! Other sounds in there represent a sort of seismic teleprinter outputting data, a piano being shaken by a quake and effectively playing ghostly disjointed notes by itself plus my long interest in all things geological.

Graauw is a small village west of Antwerp in The Netherlands close to the Schelde estuary. As kids my sister and I spent a blissful summer holiday here with my father in the late 70's when he stayed with the Belgian poet Etienne Schoonhoven and worked on translating both his own poetry and Etienne's for a joint publication. I just remember long hazy days of hot summer sunshine, big wide open vistas full of sky and wildlife everywhere in the hedges and ditches. The Schelde estuary was nearby and the sound of Oystercatchers was a constant soundtrack to the summer that year. If you listen carefully you will hear the Oystercatcher's in the middle of the track.

Delphic explores my interest in the classical religions and mythology of ancient Greece and Rome. I have delved musically into this area before with my tracks Elysian Fields and The Siren Song and this new track kind of follows on from there. The Delphic oracle was housed in the temple of Apollo at Delphi, which is located in dramatic scenery below Mount Parnassus in central Greece. The oracle was actually a female chosen from a local family who became the Pythia or priestess of Apollo at this important national sanctuary. To find out the divine will of the gods and how that would affect your destiny you had to approach the oracle with a specific question and offerings. This could only be done on 9 days of the year (the seventh of each month) and had all sorts of bizarre ritual attached to it. The priestess was accessed via an underground room in the temple of Apollo, which supposedly included a rock fissure that emitted an intoxicating gas (believed to be Apollo's breath). The priestess sat over this fissure on a tripod in the company of five holy men and two prophets and was presumably intoxicated with drugs and incense. There may have been chanting or even music in the chamber as you approached and asked your question. It must have been a very exciting, dramatic and theatrical event with hints of the supernatural and supernormal abounding as the priestess writhed around emitting incomprehensible grunts and formless words in verse that were then interpreted by the holy men to give you an answer. I wanted to represent this otherworldly experience in music and Delphic was the result.