

ROGER ENO | The Turning Year



In the spring of 2020, just as the pandemic began to affect so many people's lives, my brother and I released our first collaborative album, 'Mixing Colours'. I later learned that this had helped many listeners get through periods of lockdown, uncertainty and personal isolation and even encouraged Madonna to have a bath.....

'Mixing Colours' was released by Deutsche Grammophon who subsequently invited me to record a solo album which I took (and still hold) to be a great compliment.

The music on this album is the result of that invitation, a collection of pieces both old and (as I write) still quite new. 'A Place We Once Walked', 'Bells', 'Clearly', 'On the Horizon' and 'Slow Motion' were all written specifically for this album whilst 'Innocence', 'Something Made Out Of Nothing' and 'Low Cloud, Dark Skies' have been in my solo concert repertoire for the past few years.

The oldest piece on the album is 'Stars and Wheels' - the title coming from terms for decorations used in Romanesque architecture - and began life as a recording of an improvisation played on the single manual organ of St. Gregory's Church, Heckingham, Norfolk. Dating perhaps to twenty years ago, the recording was at the time taken into my studio and processed into three tracks, each at slightly differing speeds. Over the course of the piece this causes the tracks to separate and tumble over each other as though the piece is in a state of glorious decay. The effect was heightened when, by chance, the entire piece was lowered by a fourth, thus further misting the glass to the great satisfaction of both my producer, Christian Badzura, and myself.

'Stars and Wheels' is then perhaps the most technically complex of the tracks, at least technical in the sense of production. Many of the others are more reliant on the primary qualities of composition and performance. I have for example long been intrigued by the philosophical implications of the semi-tone clash - here illustrated by 'Something Made Out Of Nothing' - which can appear to be somehow comforting while simultaneously being unsettling.

In other pieces I have concentrated on specific intervals. The aching quality of 'On the Horizon' is partly bought about by an ambiguity of tonality/modality that is intended to cause the listener some uncertainty as to the overall mood of the piece.

Other sleights of hand include one piece being a palindrome - (see if you can work out which) - thus able to be played backwards to the same effect as forwards. There is a piece constructed almost entirely of rising thirds, ('The Turning Year'), whilst 'Innocence' is for the most part constructed only of open fifths.

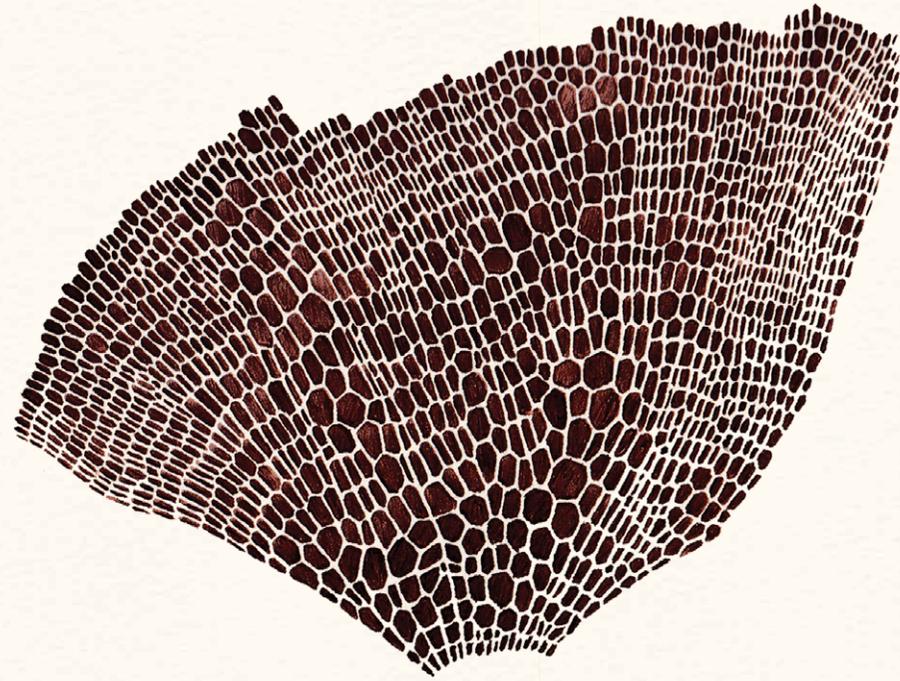
'Hymn' on the other hand was recorded exactly as you hear it with no particular rule or reason in mind. I just liked the piece as the improvisation it originally was.

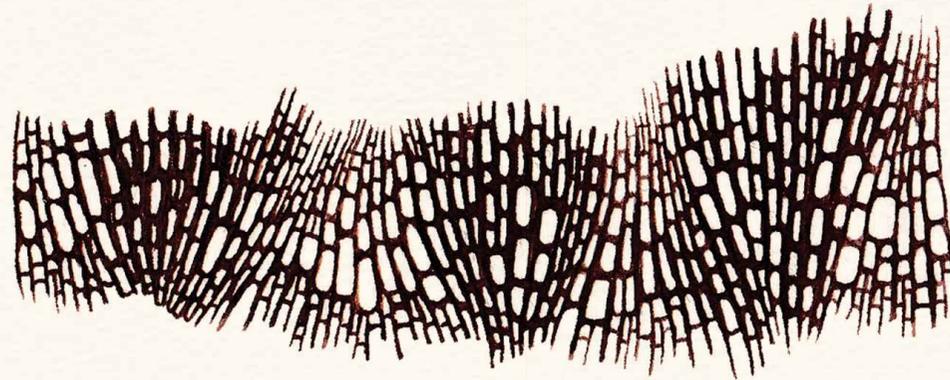
On listening back to the finished album, I felt that it could be seen as a series of short stories or photographs of individual scenes, each containing their own character. It was only after I'd finalised the running order that I realised just how much of a close relationship one piece has to another and it was this realisation perhaps that led me to the album's title. I thought about how our years comprise of moments, days, and the changing months. Of how we live our lives in facets, how we catch fleeting glimpses, how we walk through our lives, how we notice the turning year.

I'd like to thank Christian for his dedicated and imaginative work in producing this album. In Berlin he managed to locate some of the finest musicians I've yet worked with and was himself totally committed to his part in the work, in fact to every phase of the recording. He was also great fun to be with throughout.

I would also like to thank my daughter, Cecily Loris Eno for creating the beautiful images that grace the front and back cover. She's a true multi-talent and a constant delight to work with.

Roger Eno, November 2021





01 _ A Place We Once Walked

02 _ Slow Motion

03 _ Introit

04 _ Hymn

05 _ Clearly

06 _ The Turning Year

07 _ Bells

08 _ Hope (The Kindness Of Strangers)

09 _ On the Horizon

10 _ Innocence

11 _ Something Made Out Of Nothing

12 _ An Intimate Distance

13 _ Stars and Wheels

14 _ Low Cloud, Dark Skies



SPECIAL THANKS: A very big thank you to all the musicians who participated in this recording: **Tibor Reman** - Solo clarinetist in 'On the Horizon'. The string ensemble, 'Scoring Berlin' who performed on many of the tracks on this album: Violin I: **Rimma Benyumova**, **Susanne Behrens**, **Martina Greiner**, **Kim Hyun-Jung**, **Lee Minhee** and **Serge Verheylewegen**; Violin II: **Simon Beyer**, **Brigitte Draganov**, **Magdalena Makowska**, **Kostas Malamis** and **Raphaëlle Zattero**; Viola: **Katharina Hage**, **Alexander Mey**, **Christiane Silber**, **Mariana Vozovik** and **Evgenia Vynogradskaja**; Cello: **Stephan Buchmiller**, **Sara Minemoto** and **Jonathan Weigle**; Bass: **Christoph Anacker** and **Otto Tolonen**. And of course, **Max Knoth** who transcribed and orchestrated the Ensemble's parts. Special thanks also goes to **Tonmeister**, **Tobias Lehmann**, and **Cornelius Dürst** who assisted in the recording of the album. Additional thanks to **Sanne-Marije Aartsen**, **Nicole Maurer** and the team at **DG**, **Martina Connors** and the team at **Beatink**, **Bee** and **Lotti**.

Produced by **Christian Badzura** | Mastered by **Götz-Michael Rieth** | Composed by **Roger Eno** except track 3 - **Roger Eno & Christian Badzura**

01_ **A Place We Once Walked** | Composed, arranged by Roger Eno | Performed by Roger Eno, Scoring Berlin | Recorded at Teldex Studio & Christian Badzura Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded by Tobias Lehmann, Cornelius Dürst | Mixed by Christian Badzura, Tobias Lehmann

02_ **Slow Motion** | Composed and arranged by Roger Eno | Performed by Scoring Berlin | Recorded at Teldex Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded by Tobias Lehmann, Cornelius Dürst | Mixed by Tobias Lehmann

03_ **Introit** | Composed by Roger Eno, Christian Badzura | Arranged, mixed by Christian Badzura | Performed by Scoring Berlin | Recorded at Teldex Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded by Tobias Lehmann, Cornelius Dürst

04_ **Hymn** | Composed by Roger Eno | Performed by Roger Eno, Christian Badzura | Recorded at Christian Badzura Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded, mixed by Christian Badzura

05_ **Clearly** | Composed by Roger Eno | Arranged by Christian Badzura | Performed by Roger Eno, Scoring Berlin | Recorded at Teldex Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded by Tobias Lehmann, Cornelius Dürst | Mixed by Christian Badzura, Tobias Lehmann

06_ **The Turning Year** | Composed by Roger Eno | Arranged by Christian Badzura | Performed by Roger Eno, Scoring Berlin | Recorded at Teldex Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded by Tobias Lehmann, Cornelius Dürst | Mixed by Tobias Lehmann

07_ **Bells** | Composed, performed by Roger Eno | Recorded at Christian Badzura Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded, mixed by Christian Badzura

08_ **Hope (The Kindness Of Strangers)** | Composed and arranged by Roger Eno | Performed by Scoring Berlin, Christian Badzura | Recorded at Teldex Studio & Christian Badzura Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded by Tobias Lehmann, Cornelius Dürst, Christian Badzura | Mixed by Christian Badzura

09_ **On the Horizon** | Composed and arranged by Roger Eno | Performed by Roger Eno, Tibor Reman and Scoring Berlin | Recorded at Teldex Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded by Tobias Lehmann, Cornelius Dürst | Mixed by Christian Badzura, Tobias Lehmann

10_ **Innocence** | Composed, performed by Roger Eno | Recorded at Teldex Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded by Tobias Lehmann, Cornelius Dürst | Mixed by Tobias Lehmann

11_ **Something Made Out Of Nothing** | Composed and arranged by Roger Eno |

Performed by Roger Eno, Scoring Berlin | Recorded at Teldex Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded by Tobias Lehmann, Cornelius Dürst | Mixed by Christian Badzura

12_ **An Intimate Distance** | Composed, performed by Roger Eno | Recorded at Teldex Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded by Tobias Lehmann, Cornelius Dürst | Mixed by Tobias Lehmann

13_ **Stars and Wheels** | Composed by Roger Eno | Performed by Roger Eno, Christian Badzura | Recorded at Christian Badzura Studio, Berlin, August 2021, Heckingham, England, September 2002 | Recorded by Christian Badzura, Roger Eno | Mixed by Christian Badzura

14_ **Low Cloud, Dark Skies** | Composed by Roger Eno | Arranged by Christian Badzura | Performed by Roger Eno, Scoring Berlin | Recorded at Teldex Studio, Berlin, August 2021 | Recorded by Tobias Lehmann, Cornelius Dürst | Mixed by Christian Badzura

