





Putting this album together was a unique opportunity for me to present music that I have been listening to for years, free from the constraints of a club setting or from trying to stick to one genre. I chose tracks not just because they have been important to me but because of how they sit together, putting as much thought into the transitions and overall narrative as I did into the track choices. I mixed by key and by texture more than anything else, using original sound design, pivot notes, and often recording new synth or piano parts to link things together in a way that flows as naturally as possible. I hope you like it.

Jon Hopkins December 2014
www.jonhopkins.co.uk



LateNightTales

Jon Hopkins

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- 02 Darkstar *Hold Me Down*
- 03 Holy Other *Yr Love*
- 04 Teebs *Verbena Tea with Rebekah Raff*
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(Exclusive Spoken Word Piece)

Requiem for a dreamstate. It's possibly somewhere between heaven, hell and high water, down the Thames Delta towards Eden. It may involve techno and a distorted state or simply mates sat listening to music together, drifting on the open sea of their minds. This is Jon Hopkins' world, not so much joining the dots as colouring the whole damn picture in.

Jon Hopkins is the man who rose without trace. After releasing his debut album *Opalescent* at the rookie age of 21 in 2001 to enthusiastic reviews, he slunk back into the depths to lick wounds and regroup after his second LP, *Contact Note*, failed to receive the same love as his first. Fortuitous sync licenses for *Sex & The City* sustained him in *Pot Noodles* for several years as work gradually ambled his way. Firstly, he collaborated with Brian Eno (as you do), produced King Creosote's *Bombshell*, worked with David Holmes on *Holy Pictures* ('Hey Maggy' is included here) and through Eno, worked on the Coldplay album *Viva La Vida* and all subsequent releases – their 'Life In Technicolour' was based on a sample of Jon's 'Light Through The Veins'.

Unsurprisingly, given the cinematic qualities of Hopkins' work, he has scored a few movies, among them *Monsters* and *The Lovely Bones*. But he never forsook his own aspirations and in 2009 released *Insides*, his first LP for Domino Records, followed by the breakthrough *Immunity* in 2013, an album that somehow managed to straddle a world that incorporated Erik Satie and Underground Resistance. Eno enthused to Hopkins that a psychologist friend had been using *Immunity*, with some success, to help treat his patients. Its therapeutic effects are fairly obvious to those in good health, too: it was nominated for the Mercury Prize.

The story arc with which Hopkins succeeded on *Immunity* makes its appearance on *Late Night Tales* too with a perfectly sculpted excursion on this widescreen mix. Ghostly pianos skip elegantly hither and thither, among rising strings, as on Darkstar's 'Hold Me Down', whose hypnotic qualities charm and bewitch. Nils Frahm typically makes a couple of appearances, his sonic palette perfect for the job at hand, while labelmate A Winged Victory For The Sullen contribute 'Requiem For The Static King Part I', while Sigur Ros offshoot Jónsi & Alex's heroic 'Daniell In The Sea' sends us forth towards the Baltic with tears streaming.

Beats occasionally appear, as on the Grace Jones-sampling 'Yr Love' by Holy Other or the pair of Black Country acts Bibio and Letherette, whose 'After Dawn' is almost spry in comparison to the minor key symphonies on display here, but the perfect contrast to this comes from Alela Diane's wistful 'Lady Divine' or even Four Tet's mesmerising 'Gillie Amma I Love You', with its enchanting kids' choir or Jon himself, who provides a startlingly vulnerable new piano version of Yeasayer's 'I Remember'.

Somewhere out there is a transient state waiting for you, possibly just on the outskirts of Oregon in a trailer park or maybe in the avenues and byways of your mind. Just pull up a fat mattress, lie down and be counted.

Bill Brewster

**01. Ben Lukas Boysen.
Sleepers Beat Theme**

Written by Ben Lukas Boysen. Published by Erased Tapes Music Publishing Ltd. © 2014 Erased Tapes Records Ltd. www.erasedtapes.com www.hecq.de. Licensed courtesy of Erased Tapes.

I encountered this on the soundtrack to a short film I contributed music to about the Trans-Siberian Express, called Sleepers' Beat, which was directed by a fantastic Russian filmmaker called Anastasia Kirillova. I thought it was such a calming and sensitive piece, and one that sounded to me like the beginning of something.

**02. Darkstar.
Hold Me Down**

Written by Darkstar & Richard Formby. © 2012 Warp Records Limited. Licensed courtesy of Warp Records Limited. www.warp.net.

News From Nowhere, their first album on Warp, signified a move from dance music into something altogether more song-based and abstract. This track has a strangely hypnotic and formless aura to it. There is no lead vocal, just a few separately sung lines that shimmer to the surface before sinking again, while other instruments rise and fall. I can't think of another tune that sounds quite like it.

**03. Holy Other.
Yr Love**

Written by Holy Other. Published by Holy Other. Produced by Holy Other. © 2011 Tri Angle Records. Licensed courtesy of Tri Angle Records.

This EP is perhaps my favourite release on Tri-Angle. It has this amazing melancholy atmosphere; kind of dark but not impenetrable, and an awesome groove that's both deep and fuzzy. The way the pitched vocals are used subtly to build the textures and bring forward the chord sequence makes it stand out.

04. Teebs. Verbena Tea with Rebekah Raff

Written by M. Mandowa. Published by Just Isn't Music. © 2011 Brainfeeder. www.brainfeedersite.com. Licensed courtesy of Ninja Tune.

This has got that beautifully stoned LA sound that characterises Teebs' stuff. This one is taken from his album Collections 01, which was out on Brainfeeder a few years ago. The presence of Rebekah Raff's live, improvised harp gives it a certain lightness, and distinguishes it from his other stuff, which has tended to be more sample and electronics-driven.

**05. Nils Frahm.
More**

Written by Nils Frahm. Published by Manners McDade Music Publishing Ltd. Taken from the album "Felt". © 2011 Erased Tapes Records Ltd. www.erasedtapes.com www.nilsfrahm.com. Licensed courtesy of Erased Tapes.

Nils is renowned for his extraordinary piano concerts, where he goes from playing like an absolute machine to these deeply sensitive and intimate moments; it's incredible to witness. Rather than use one of his piano sections here, I just wanted the ending section of this tune - a warm surge of electronics and bubbling Juno synths. It bridges the gap perfectly between Teebs and Songs Of Green Pheasant.

**06. Songs Of Green
Pheasant. I Am Daylights**

Written by Duncan Sumpner. Published by Copyright Control. © 2005 FatCat Records. Licensed courtesy of FatCat Records.

I heard this around 2006. The album was released by Fat Cat at what was a great time for the weirder side of folk music. Much legend surrounded this guy, a schoolteacher called Duncan Sumpner, who recorded his songs in his kitchen with one mic, a looping pedal, and little else. To me it stands out from a lot of the overly sweet stuff of that era - amazingly beautiful yet restrained. The transcendent major 7th opening moments bring to mind sunlight on water.

**07. Jónsi & Alex.
Daniell In The Sea**

Written by Alex Somers & Jón Pór Birgisson. Published by Universal Music Publishing Ltd. © 2009 Sigur Ros under exclusive license to Parlophone Records Ltd. Licensed courtesy of Warner Music UK Ltd.

This track is from the one-off side-project album Riceboy Sleeps, by Sigur Ros' Jónsi and his partner Alex Somers. The word "ambient" doesn't cover it - a never-heard-before combination of drone, choral, piano, cinematic... it defies description. They put it together over several years, blending the tiniest and most intricate of found-sounds with acoustic and sampled instrumentation. It has that rare quality of a record that sounds like it was done purely for the love of it, with no thought given to commerciality. As a result it has such a hand-made, heartfelt quality, and the whole thing crackles with energy and beauty.

**08. Evenings.
Babe**

Written by Nathan Broaddus. Published by Friends of Friends Records. Produced by Nathan Broaddus, © 2013 Friends of Friends. Licensed courtesy of Nathan Broaddus, Evenings, Friends of Friends Records.

This was quite a random discovery. I got sent a link to this guy's Bandcamp by a friend, just before the Away Game festival on the remote Scottish island of Eigg in 2010. I bought the whole EP and took it with me, and it became the soundtrack of that trip. Sitting in the sun in a heavily altered state listening to this with friends will remain a life highlight.



Wentworth Tales

**09. Letherette.
After Dawn**

Written by A. Harber & R. Roberts.
Published by Just Isn't Music.
Available on the album 'Letherette'.
© 2013 Ninja Tune.
www.ninjatune.net. Licensed
courtesy of Ninja Tune.

Just ridiculously satisfying to listen to, this is the closest thing to a true upbeat moment in this mix. Impeccably produced and mixed, with massive analog synth chords filtering up and down, around a crisp and punchy beat and clipped vocal samples, it's sort of irresistible.

**10. Jon Hopkins.
I Remember**

Written by Yeasayer. Published
by Copyright Control. © 2015
Domino Recording Co Ltd.
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Recording Co Ltd.

For my cover version I chose this track by Yeasayer. The original is a beautifully sad yet upbeat breakup song, strident and bright with synth lines cascading around a heartfelt vocal. I wanted to make it sound far more broken and fragile, so I re-played it on the piano, pitched it down, then mangled it quite heavily so it came out sort of wobbly and knackered-sounding. I wanted to leave it quite bare, just letting that amazing melody lead the way.

**11. David Holmes.
Hey Maggy**

Written by David Holmes.
Published By Universal Music
Publishing Ltd. Mixed By Hugo
Nicolson. Vocals by Foy Vance
& Nina Holmes. © 2008.

This comes from The Holy Pictures, his last solo album. I was involved in a lot of the recordings for this record, which were largely based on improvisations that took place in his Belfast studio between me, Leo Abrahams, David and a few others. There is a strange and timeless glow surrounding the whole song, and a glorious build in the middle.

**12. Alela Diane.
Lady Divine**

Written by Alela Diane Menig.
Taken from the album 'To Be Still'. © 2009 Names Records.
Under exclusive license to
Names Records from Alela Diane
Menig. Licensed courtesy of
Names Records.

This is the only traditionally recorded vocal song I have chosen for this record. Such surreal and beautiful lyrics, hard to interpret but made much more powerful for it. I love the intricate, rootsy instrumentation and lack of frills. I love the way this track flows so perfectly from the David Holmes one.

**13. Four Tet.
Gillie Amma, I Love You**

Written by Four Tet. Published
by BMG Chrysalis/Transgressive
North. Produced by Four Tet.
© 2012 Transgressive North.
Licensed courtesy of
Transgressive North.

This is a new Four Tet track that I came across at the start of last year. It was written for an album released in aid of the charity Scottish Love In Action, and has this very tactile, warm sound - pulsing bass arpeggios, and a tapestry of samples of a children's choir. The overall effect is very warming.

**14. School Of 7 Bells.
Connjur**

Written, produced and
composed by Claudia Deheza,
Alejandra Deheza & Benjamin
Curtis. Published by Ghostly
Songs (BMI) / SVIIB Music (BMI).
© 2008 Ghostly International.
Licensed courtesy of Full Time
Hobby under exclusive license
from Ghostly International.

Now sadly no more, these guys were one of my favourite acts of recent years. Fronted by identical twin sisters, singing in mysterious, detailed harmonies, there was always a hypnotic power to the sound of their voices combined. While I was researching this record, I found there was another version of this song that I had never heard, where the vocals were slightly more prominent. I blended this with the original version, and played some of my own keyboard parts over the top.

**15. Peter Broderick.
And It's Alright
(Nils Frahm Remix)**

Written by Peter Broderick.
Published by Erased Tapes
Publishing. Performed by Peter
Broderick & Nils Frahm.
Remixed & produced by Nils
Frahm. © 2009 Bella Union.
Licensed courtesy of Bella Union
/ (PIAS) Cooperative.

The intricacy in the programming here is incredible, and apparently all done manually. There is a vocal in there, but for me it takes second place to the extraordinary orchestration. The build at the end is so intensely euphoric, I challenge you to get through it without smiling.

**16. Health.
Before Tigers
(Gold Panda Remix)**

Written by Health. Published by
Health (SESAC). © 2010 Health
& Lovepump United. Licensed
courtesy of Lovepump United.

From here to the end of the compilation we stay in the same key, with everything growing out of everything else. I love the way Gold Panda has put this kind of buried bass tone in every bar, around which the rest of the instrumentation dips. It's like the audio is slowly strobing, and the result on the listener is entrancing. I love the soft, saturated analog percussion and intertwining synth melodies.

**17. Last Days.
Missing Photos**

Written by Graham Richardson. Taken from the album "Safety of the North". © 2008 n5Music (BMI). Licensed courtesy of n5Music.

I went to Prague a few years ago, to do a show in a church in the depths of winter. On our day off the promoter showed us around some of the lesser-known sites of the city - dimly lit gothic cathedrals, abandoned squares, shrouded in mist and ghostly gaslamp light. He had this Last Days album playing in the car throughout, and since then for me it has been forever bound up with that part of the world.

**18. Bibio.
Down To The Sound**

Written by Stephen Wilkinson. © 2013 Warp Records Limited. Licensed courtesy of Warp Records Limited. www.warp.net.

I love how Bibio records his guitars - always direct to tape, and always through valves, sometimes (I heard) of his own creation. This gives everything he does an amazingly nostalgic quality, like it's somehow something we grew up with. On this tune, from The Green EP, we hear his normally obscured voice at the forefront, and it has a real soulful vulnerability.

**19. A Winged Victory
For The Sullen.
Requiem For The Static
King Part One**

Written by Dustin O'Halloran (BMI) & Adam Bryanbaum Wiltzie (BMI). Administrated by Embassy Music Corporation (BMI). © 2011 Erased Tapes Records Ltd. / Kranky (North America). Taken from the album "A Winged Victory For The Sullen". www.erasedtapes.com / www.awvfts.com. Licensed courtesy of Erased Tapes / Kranky (North America).

Erased Tapes is a remarkably consistent record label for this kind of "non-classical" music. Very meditative, spacious and sepulchral - I had a transformative experience listening to this in the Scottish Highlands last year, far from anyone and unable to see any evidence of other human life. The languid string movements soundtracked this moment like it had been written for that purpose.

**20. Helios.
Emancipation**

Written by Keith Kenniff. Published by Unseen Music, LLC. Produced by Keith Kenniff. Remixed by Helios. © 2006 Unseen. Licensed courtesy of Unseen Music, LLC.

There was never any doubt about how I wanted to end this compilation. A simple, transcendent guitar piece, it flows so perfectly from the previous track, it's like they were written to be heard together. If you aren't asleep by this point, you will be soon.

**21. Rick Holland.
I Remember**

Poem written and narrated by Rick Holland. Published by Just Publishing. Music by Jon Hopkins. Published by Domino Publishing Co Ltd. Licensed by Rick Holland. © 2015. Music licensed by Domino Recording Co Ltd. © 2015. Recorded by Cherif Hashizume at Cafe Music Studios.

Jon Hopkins would like to thank Rick Holland, Ben Lukas Boysen, Anastasia Kirillova, David Holmes, Kieran Hebden, Jón Þór "Jónsi" Birgisson, Cherif Hashizume at Cafe Music Studios, Paul Glancy and Serena and John Benedict.

Late Night Tales would like to thank Jon Hopkins for an amazing selection that really defines what our series is all about, Serena Benedict, cheekypaul, Bill Brewster, Tadas Svilaonis, Tom Ferrell, Sam Chapman, Matt at The Reptile House, Peter Ashworth, Edwin and all at N.E.W.S Belgium, Asami and Shota and all at Beatink Japan, Jeffrey and all at Southbound, Tommy and all at Love Da Records Hong Kong, Ben and Johnny at Echo Empire, Melissa and all at Mouris PR, Mark and all at Republic Of Music, Pete Norman and all at Fynl Tweek, Steve Owen and all at iTunes and last but not least all the labels that license us their great music to make these albums what they are.

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Jon Hopkins photo by Steve Gullick

Design by The Reptile House (thereptilehouse.net)

Mix production and mastering by cheekypaul

Jon Hopkins appears courtesy of Domino Recording Co Ltd

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Rick Holland / Remember

*I remember the tone the sunlight made
reflecting as it did
that first breath of late night morning air
the feeling that here was anywhere
and anywhere was kind*

*plumes of smoke funnel overland and meet us there
as though our late night tales joined to feed our breathing
and each breath kept golden remnants of a fireside tale inside
safe but boundless
to hang like bubbles over us with each completed breath
not born or dying, but reassembling the very air
a ceiling to our meaning, or spring for new sounds to bound from
no essential measure of beginning or belief
no escape and no relief, but safe
safe as shapeless
shapeless on a turning wheel of casting possibilities that change the wheel
the tick becomes imagined and steel to silk*

*I remember the tone the sunlight made
and each time it comes to visit I remember
and taste and scent, and sense released from sense
the sense of everything as golden and remembered
even as it slips into the course of these events
and this my friend is home
right here and in this tone of sun and fire and form
where listening is a birth each time
and feeling creeps to embers
notes suggest in emblems reminiscent of a nascent form of wealth
from long before gold could be held
when cold was felt and breath was celebrated for that very rearrangement of the air
which placed us, here.*



Franz Ferdinand



Django Django



Bonobo



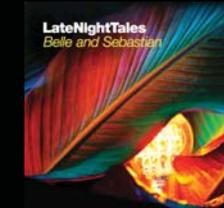
Röyksopp



Friendly Fires



Metronomy



Belle and Sebastian
Volume 2



Automatic Soul
Mixed by Tom Findlay
from Groove Armada



MGMT



Trentemøller



Midlake



The Cinematic Orchestra



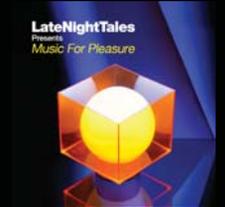
Snow Patrol



Arctic Monkeys



Groove Armada



Music For Pleasure
Mixed by Tom Findlay
from Groove Armada



Fatboy Slim



Lindstrøm



Nouvelle Vague



Shrigley - Forced To
Speak To Others



Air



Belle & Sebastian



The Flaming Lips



AfterDark : Nightshift
Mixed by Bill Brewster



Four Tet



Turin Brakes



Jamiroquai



Sly & Robbie



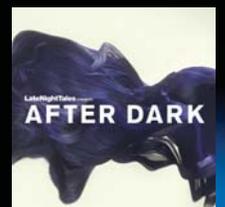
Nightmares On Wax



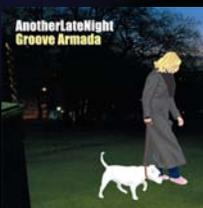
Kid Loco



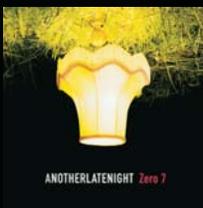
Tommy Guerrero



AfterDark
Mixed by Bill Brewster



Groove Armada



Zero 7



Rae & Christian



Howie B



Fila Brazillia

For more information on releases,
events and special exclusive mixes go to
www.latenighttales.co.uk

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Twitter, Soundcloud, Pinterest, Instagram and any
other new fangled online networking sites that
get invented in the future.



Rae & Christian
Mercury Rising