Flatspace IIk Music Pack 1 (2019)

by Mark Sheeky



Music From Future Past

Three music packs were designed for the Flatspace and Flatspace II games, but these were in ogg format and not compatible with the Steam release of Flatspace IIk, so when the time came to re-release the music packs I saw this as an opportunity to revisit the music.

The first, original music pack was created in 2005, and included a mix of unused game music, such as the epic theme to The Heart of Aorkhan, and some tracks from my solo albums up until that time, such as a track from the first version of The Spiral Staircase. I'm now a full time artist and my music has changed considerably since 2005, so I wanted to include some recent music, as well as the best quality versions of those original tracks. I also wanted to make sure that all of the music that had a sense of awe and wonder, the feeling of free space flight that embodies the experience of playing Flatspace.

All of the tracks here are different from those in the original pack. In some cases, such as Sea Monsters, new recordings of the music have been used.

Included Music

The Heart of Aorkhan: Main Theme
Created using the first generation of my music software,
Noise Station, in 2001, this was the main theme for a
massive 3D rogue-like game that didn't make it to final
release. The Heart of Aorkhan would have ranked among
the world's largest role playing games with around five
hundred 3D animated monsters, and over one thousand
items and artefacts. The game used a 3D graphics engine
that was too slow for the computers of that time and the
project proved to be unfeasible for one person to complete,
so The Heart of Aorkhan was shelved after approximately
one year of development.

This is the oldest music in the Flatspace Music Packs, and is a restored version of the recording in the older music pack.

Catacombs

This was part of The Heart of Aorkhan soundtrack. Catacombs made it onto one of my earliest albums, The Incredible Journey. A tiny quantity of CD-R versions of this album were pressed and sold in the early years of the century, but The Incredible Journey has not been published digitally. Catacombs is part of Flatspace II (The Official Soundtrack), and the fan-commissioned track, Journey Through Fractional Space, was developed as a crossover between this and Flatspace tune, Cobra.

Fall in Green: Barefoot (instrumental version)
Fall in Green are an act of poetry and live instruments made up of myself, Mark Sheeky, and Deborah Edgeley. Barefoot is from 2018, and was released only as a bonus track with our first single, Who is Afraid/She Floats. This is an instrumental version, the original includes the following words written and performed by Deborah Edgeley:

Barefoot long hair drips words redundant veins float in their once literate cave

her cool blood that carried ideas bobs with the current

She would buy the flowers posy of pansies that's for thoughts

At midnight oh, how we are fallen lower your eyes to the page

She wakes in the forest made of words her legacy displayed in green

A forest of her own

Insanity A simple fugue.

Oceanic

Oceanic appears on Animalia, one of my early albums, which were heavily influenced by Jean-Michel Jarre. I like to create music that evokes images as well as feelings, and Oceanic is about underwater life.

Reliquary I: Angel on the Moon

The Love Reliquary is an work of art, a wooden cabinet covered in 24k gold and gemstones, and containing three oil paintings. I wanted to composed some music for each of the paintings, and this is the music for the first panel. The painting shows a stone angel on the surface of the moon, and the music has a lonely feeling of outer space that seemed perfect for Flatspace. The full track includes some words at the start. This music has not yet been released commercially.

Sea Monsters

Sea Monsters is part of my first album on a symphonic scale, a conceptual electronic works called The Spiral Staircase. The album was completely recorded twice, first in 2004 on my old software Noise Station, then in 2008 on much better equipment, and for the second version, this excluded segment was included.

The album tells the story of a journey; through a vast door at from the bottom of a fairytale-like tower, and running upwards along a spiral staircase, encountering various

strange worlds; goblins, dragons, and here, an entire indoor ocean. The original Flatspace Music Pack included Sea Monsters from the 2004 version of Sea Monsters, this is the 2008 version. The only surviving segment from the 2004 album is the finalé to Flatspace (The Official Soundtrack).

Space

A short track which pre-dates the original Flatspace game.

The 7th Bell

This track was written for another game developer at the start of 2004, and perhaps inspired by 1970s electronic music, such as Pulstar and Alpha by Vangelis. This is an extended version compared to the one in the original Music Pack. The full version of this track is on Flatspace II (The Official Soundtrack).

Credits

All music composed, performed and produced by Mark Sheeky.

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Other Music

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Album Releases

The Arcangel Soundtrack (2000) Synaesthesia (2002) The Incredible Journey (2002)

The Spiral Staircase (Original) (2004)

Animalia (2004)

The Four Seasons Of Dance [EP] (2005)

Flatspace (The Official Soundtrack) (2007)

Gunstorm [EP] (2007)*

The Spiral Staircase (2008)

Stupid Computer Music (2008)

The End And The Beginning (2009)*

The Twelve Seasons (2009)

The Infinite Forest (2010)

Once Upon A Time (2010)

Pi (2010)

Flatspace II (The Official Soundtrack) (2012)

The Love Symphony (2012)

Bites Of Greatness (2013)

Art By Machine (2014)**

Synaesthesia (2015)

The Anatomy of Emotions (2016)

Cycles & Shadows (2017)

Finnegans Judgement [EP] (2017)

Genesis (2017)

I, Leviathan (2017)****
The Modern Game (2018)
Testing The Delicates (2018)***
A Walk In The Countryside [EP] (2018)
Tree of Keys (2019)

Single Releases

Gunstorm (2007)*
House Of Glass (2018)
Who Is Afraid / She Floats (2018)***
Masculinity Two (2018)
Time Falling (2018)***

* = Mark Sheeky & Tor James Faulkner ** = Oldfield 1 *** = Fall in Green **** = The ArtsLab Collective

Other Games

Visit the Cornutopia Software website or search for Mark Sheeky to see more titles. The current Cornutopia games catalogue is:

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Thermonuclear Domination
      Arcangel: The Legacy Of Peace
                   Roton
            Martian Rover Patrol
                   Trax
               Noise Station
                Radioactive
             Breakout Velocity
              Fallout Velocity
                   Bool
                  Yinyang
                  Outliner
                  Firefly
                 Flatspace
Taskforce: The Mutants Of October Morgane
                Future Pool
                 Gunstorm
                Flatspace II
              Future Snooker
                Gunstorm II
               Flatspace IIk
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