

TOM BLOCK – “INITIATION REVISITED”

Release Date: 01.05.2016 on Sister 9 Recordings



In 2012, Tom Block “self released” his debut album *Initiation* without any prior knowledge of the ins and outs of the music business. At the point of the release, he was 20 years old and had never heard of “pluggers” or “press kits”. His financial means were limited and his idea of promotion consisted of handing out free promo CDs to strangers outside record shops in London Soho. The 10 tracks on the album were never mixed or mastered professionally and it came as no surprise that this unique little DIY jewel never received the attention it deserved. However, “Initiation” has stood the test of time. It’s one of the best-kept secrets of the musical underground.

Now for its 4th anniversary, Tom took some time off from his 9 to 5 job to produce *Initiation Revisited*, a revisited version of the original album that developed out of collaboration with the Manchester-based label Sister 9 Recordings. Expect approx. 40 minutes of genre merging alt-pop; sixties-inspired guitar songs backed by trip-hop-infused electronica! From the laid back afrobeat percussion on “City Zen” and “Initiation”, to the energetic breakbeat rhythms on “10101” and “New”, from samples of earthquakes and answering machines on “Heartquake 10.1” to experiments with binaural beats on “Ancestors”; the 10 tracks that the album contains are all unique pieces of art on their own. However, *Initiation* as a whole is coherent throughout. It is almost a concept album with one central theme: the difficulty of spiritual development in the busy & hectic environments of modern society.

“In a world of constant conflicts, struggles and turbulence, this might be the perfect shelter, an island of break. Chill and relax, Tom Block delivers the soundscape of this imaginary getaway.” - <http://brushvox.com/2012/02/tom-block-initiation-2012/>