

GREGOR SAMSA

REST



In their third full-length album in seven years, **Gregor Samsa** takes a new approach to composition, both in process and instrumentation. The result is *Rest*, nine pieces composed over e-mail during the course of nine months by key members in New York, Chicago, Boston, DC and Richmond, VA.

In *Rest*, Gregor Samsa expand on their affinity for minimal, classical instrumentation mixed with mangled and manipulated sound through integration of new instruments such as the celesta, clarinet, classical voice and vibraphone. Along with these new sounds, guitar has been almost entirely replaced by piano, whose parts were recorded on a rare Bösendorfer once owned by Philip Glass. These pieces demonstrate a shift in focus to harmony, restraint and the use of muted tones, while less interest is taken in the large dynamic shifts that once carried the weight of many of their compositions.

With all these changes, one might assume a loss in ability to recognize this as a Gregor Samsa album. On the contrary, this album focuses and refines their sound, making it more distinct. There is a uniqueness and a confidence demonstrated in *Rest* that was once only alluded to in previous work.

Engineer Alex Aldi tracked most of *Rest* in New York City's Gigantic Studios. In their studio at the now famous Pencil Factory in Brooklyn, the band recorded a number of overdubs before taking the album to Alan Weatherhead for mixing at Sound of Music in Richmond. The album was mastered by Mark Christensen at Engine Room Audio in NYC.

INSTRUMENTATION

Nikki King - Voice, Piano, Rhodes, Vibraphone
Billy Bennett - Drums, Percussion, Guitar, Bass, Vibraphone, Piano, Synth
Champ Bennett - Piano, Voice, Guitar, Drums, Bass, Vibraphone, Mellotron, Celesta, Synth, Rhodes, String Arrangements
Jeremiah Klinger - Baritone Guitar, Guitar, Clarinet, Piano
Cory Bise - Bass, Baritone Guitar
Mia Matsumiya - Violin
Toby Driver - Clarinet, Guitar, Bass, String Arrangements
Andrew Miller - Cello
Alex Aldi - Synth
Alan Weatherhead - Guitar
Rick Alverson - Voice, Titles
Debra Wassum - Voice

ARTIST
GREGOR SAMSA

TITLE
REST

OWN CAT NR
OWNREC#38

MDM CAT NR
MDM 45282

MDM PRICE CODE
PC 0861

FORMAT
CD DIGIFILE

TIME
48'04''

RELEASE DATE
APRIL 25, 2008

TRACK LISTING
01 THE ADOLESCENT
02 AIN LEUH
03 ABUTTING, DISMANTLING
04 COMPANY
05 JEROEN VAN AKEN
06 RENDERED YARDS
07 PSEUDONYMS
08 FIRST MILE, LAST MILE
09 DU MEINE LEISE

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