

PR: A SUBMERGED SOUNDSCAPES

Stierdna record label 2019

The album *Understanding / Áddejupmi* is the last release in a trilogy from coastal Finnmark and Troms.

For this extensive project, artist Johan Sara jr. has recorded sounds from nature for many years. He has interpreted nature and fauna, and used field recordings to form the basis for the compositions. Nature has a language that we do not always understand, but which we recognize the beauty of. Nevertheless, the composer has used concrete sounds to make these atmospheric soundscapes. The trilogy tells about life by the shores, on the sea and finally: under the water. The vocals compliment the submarine rhythms and sounds, alternating between the deepest bass of the seabed to a bird-like falsetto.

The intention of this trilogy is to illuminate, but also to unite nature, man and the animal kingdom of the vulnerable Arctic environment; it is truly a visualization of the climate issues in the north. As you listen, you smell the seawater and feel the boat's cradling, while the elongated sounds of seabirds and whales follow you.

- I've always been fascinated with sound, says Johan Sara jr. From early childhood, he developed the interest through activities related to his sea Sámi upbringing. He was challenged by his father to listen to everything that moved through all the eight Sámi seasons. Sara brought this curiosity with him into adulthood and into his artistic work as a composer, musician and joiker (performer of traditional Sámi music).

The music in the trilogy, which consists of *Sea Sami, See* (2016), *Transforming* (2017) and *Understanding* (2019), is ethereal, suggestive and movingly beautiful. The soundscapes are color-saturated and dark, bright and sparkling, dense and open at the same time; a pulsating matter with recognizable cyclic qualities.

This is music you need time to get to know, meditate with and reflect upon. The albums are already favorite soundtracks for several dancers and the music is used for three dance performances in 2019.

Music: Composed and produced by Johan Sara jr. Cover: Elisabeth Strifeldt and Susanne Hætta

Whale sounds: Audun Rikardsen

Mastering: Audun Strype

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