

Esmerine

Mechanics Of Dominion

180gLP • CD • DL

Release Date: 20 October 2017

The modern chamber ensemble co-founded by cellist Rebecca Foon (Saltland, Silver Mt Zion) and former Godspeed You! Black Emperor percussionist Bruce Cawdron

Recorded and produced by Jace Lasek (Besnard Lakes, Suuns, Moonface)

Deluxe 180gram audiophile vinyl edition includes a set of art prints featuring the work of Montréal painter Jean-Sebastien Denis

Esmerine on tour in Europe Nov-Dec 2017

Following the Turkish collaboration of *Dalmak* (awarded the 2014 Juno for Instrumental Album Of The Year) and the more rock-influenced *Lost Voices* (2016 Juno nominee for Instrumental Album and winner for Album Package Of The Year), Esmerine embarked on a soundtrack commission for the National Film Board documentary "Freelancer on the Front Line" (about independent journalism in the Middle East), which also led to a deep dive into archival and previously unreleased recordings. Sessions for the film soundtrack provided various seeds for a new album concept and composing/recording continued rolling into early 2017, informed by anxiety over the reactionary, regressive, seemingly irresolvable disharmony of human oppression/domination and the ever-accelerating degradation/denial of nature and social justice.

Stylistically, *Mechanics Of Dominion* took shape with mallet instruments brought more to the fore (relative to Esmerine's previous two outings): marimba, piano and amplified music box provide a more prominent through-line on this new album's otherwise quite diverse material. Multi-instrumentalist Brian Sanderson's contributions also continue to shape Esmerine's songwriting to an ever greater extent - his stately melodic lines on horns and acoustic strings are bracing, compelling elements in the ceremonious lyricism and keening vitality of this new song cycle. And the album revisits and further develops two previously recorded and heretofore unreleased pieces (the origins of the modernist piano, string and horn piece "Northeast Kingdom" date back to some of Esmerine's earliest recordings in the mid-2000s; the sizzling free-improv of "¡Que Se Vayan Todos!" was captured during the *Dalmak* sessions.)

Mechanics Of Dominion is perhaps Esmerine's most dynamic and narratively-driven work, tracing an arc through Neo/Post-Classical, Minimalism, Modern Contemporary, Folk, Jazz, Baroque and Rock idioms to paint a soundtrack of lamentation, meditation, resolve, resistance and hope. It is Esmerine's humble requiem for our intractably suffering planet and a paean to the inscrutable, essential dignity of indigenous ethics and the natural world.

Mechanics Of Dominion is also another superlative example of Esmerine's acclaimed and award-winning dedication to album artwork and packaging, this time featuring the work of Montreal artist Jean-Sebastien Denis in beautiful resonance with the album's balance of stylistic tensions and emotional colourations. Thanks for listening.



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CST128 CONSTELLATION



TRACKLIST:

- 01 The Space In Between
- 02 La Lucha Es Una Sola
- 03 La Pénombre
- 04 La Plume Des Armes
- 05 ¡Que Se Vayan Todos!
- 06 Mechanics of Dominion
- 07 Northeast Kingdom
- 08 Piscibus Maris

DURATION: 44:45

GENRE: Instrumental Rock / Modern Classical

180gram vinyl includes set of art prints and 320kbps MP3 download card

CD in 100% recycled paperboard gatefold jacket

VINYL IS NON-RETURNABLE
NO EXPORT TO ISRAEL

CD

BOX LOT: 30

UPC: 666561012823



LP (180g)

BOX LOT: 35

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