

YAMANTAKA // SONIC TITAN

UZU

With their sophomore effort *UZU*, YAMANTAKA // SONIC TITAN continue their exploration of cultural dualities. While the band has always provided an outlet for the core duo's celebration of their Asian heritage, the inclusion of auxiliary musicians and artists into the fold has reinforced one of the most crucial defining dualities of the group: the merging of diasporic and indigenous perspectives. This meeting of East and West is perhaps most visible in *UZU*'s lead single "One". As the first YAMANTAKA // SONIC TITAN song to extend the songwriting credits beyond the core duo, "One" incorporates the indigenous upbringings of the extended group by leading off with a traditional Iroquois song. The introductory chant is a social song calling all people together, and is performed by people of the Mohawk tribe. From there, the band kicks into a driving guitar line and a vocal hook as sweet as any J-pop hit. Metal riffing, free-jazz cacophony, and meditative Eastern percussion patterns accentuate the song. In the hands of lesser visionaries, this kind of cross-pollination would sound like a schizophrenic genre mash-up. But YAMANTAKA // SONIC TITAN's appropriations never sound forced. Rather, it sounds like a celebration of the cultural collision of Alaska and Ruby's upbringing. The hybridization is evident throughout *UZU*—you can hear it in the operatic piano-and-vocal opener "Atalanta" segueing into the dynamic prog of "Whalesong", the Eastern melodies seamlessly melding into the synth arpeggio and guitar dirge of "Windflower", the musical storytelling tradition of "Seasickness Pt. 1" juxtaposing with the Heart-like classic rock gallop of "Seasickness Pt. 2", and the closing choir passage of "Saturn's Return" descending into Merzbow-esque white noise. It is safe to say there is no other band like YAMANTAKA // SONIC TITAN on the planet. In a world that is increasingly homogenized, a record like *UZU* is all the more important for demonstrating how disparate cultural perspectives can merge into something entirely new while retaining their individual sovereign character.

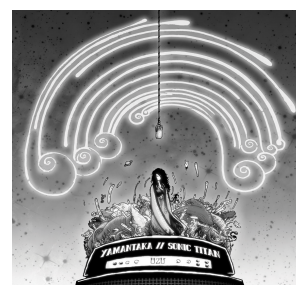
"Like stoner-rock imaginings of Chinese opera and flower-child psychedelia, the music blends philosophies of Buddhism, meditation, and mantra with the band's love of extreme sounds like black metal, industrial, and noise." - **Pitchfork**

"They twist up these Asian and Indigenous traditions to create something truly striking. With lyrical allusions ranging from religion to nature to Picasso, it becomes obvious there's no point in focusing on where they come from but rather which rabbit hole they decide to lead us down next." - **Noisey**

"Yamantaka // Sonic Titan, whose so-called 'Noh-wave' is heavy and hallucinogenic, blending influences such as Boredoms, Black Sabbath and Japanese manga." - **The Guardian**

- + LIMITED FIRST EDITION LP PRESSED ON GREY VINYL. COMES W/ DL COUPON.
- + VIDEO FOR "ONE" WILL ANNOUNCE THE ALBUM
- + FOLLOW UP TO YT//ST, WHICH EARNED THE BAND A SHORT LIST NOMINATION FOR THE 2012 POLARIS PRIZE
- + FULL PRESS CAMPAIGN THROUGH REQUIEM MEDIA
- + PRAISED BY PITCHFORK, SPIN, MTV, STEREOGUM, ETC.

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TRACKLISTING

1. Atalanta
2. Whalesong
3. Lamia
4. Windflower
5. Hall of Mirrors
6. Seasickness Pt1
7. Seasickness Pt2
8. Bring Me the Hand of Bloody Benzaiten
9. One
10. Saturn's Return

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Genre: Rock

Format: CD/LP/DIGITAL
Export restrictions: US only

Packaging: Digipak CD
CD Box Lot Qty: 30
CD: 803238012421



Packaging: Single LP
1xLP (grey vinyl)
LP Box Lot Qty: 50
Non-returnable
LP: 803238012414



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