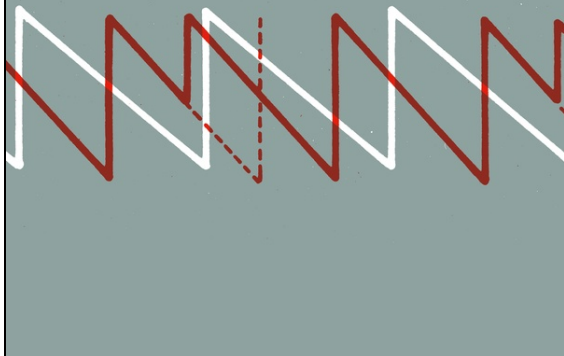


HEIKO MAILE
DEMO TAPES
1984-86



HEIKO MAILE Demo Tapes 1984-86

Label

BUREAU B

Format

CD

Catalog Number

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DESCRIPTION

"The beginnings of **Camouflage** represent a personal voyage of discovery in so many ways. Ideas, compositions, arrangements, sound and not least the technical question of the recording process – this was all completely new ground for me. Getting to grips with songwriting and studio engineering without any form of training or professional guidance involves a great deal of trial and error and, above all, plenty of time. Any spare minutes I had were spent with our synthesizers and recording equipment. Every demo, every attempt to imitate the sound of a favorite record or device rang true to the mantra of 'learning by doing' ... equipment with no memory function (please do not touch!), the constant humming of cheap wires and cables (soldering is a must-have skill!), rotten-sounding cassettes (which had been recorded over several times, of course), a healthy degree of overconfidence (who needs a Fairlight CMI?) or the frequently unpredictable vagaries of analog technology on a home studio budget – there were many lessons to be learned. Most of the tracks on this album were recorded with a basic stereo (2-track) cassette recorder. The studio set-up looked more or less like this: a drum computer (no MIDI) and a sequencer were connected to each other and synchronized rhythmically. I crafted melodic sequences and rhythms and usually transposed them to the desired pitch manually, using the keyboards. Other live instruments were played over the top. Then everything, the sum of all the sound sources, was put together in a kind of 'live recording' with the aid of a mixing desk. Just a single mistake would mean having to start all over again. Reconfiguring many of the sounds once the controls had already been adjusted was a painstaking process. I ended up with heaps of cassettes, often featuring seemingly endless versions and variations of the same track . . . State of the art studio technology and audio restoration algorithms helped me to get these tracks back into listenable shape. Sifting through the archive and unearthing long-forgotten song ideas can create a retrograde vibe . . . I had fun with all of it and I hope that the tracks selected will whet the appetite of fresh listeners to explore the early phase of my electronic music and the bizarre sonic worlds I inhabited." – **Heiko Maile**, December 2020

TRACKLISTING

01. Beat For Ikutaro (Tape 52)
02. Vega Drive (Tape 13)
03. Heizungskeller (Tape 66)
04. Ear Piercer (Tape 48)
05. Murky Water (Tape 02)
06. Floating Bottles (Tape 04)
07. Spoken Letter (Tape 75)
08. Wavy RX (Tape 57)
09. Nachspaziergang (Tape 40)
10. Grandma's Kitchen (Tape 29)
11. Steam Engine (Tape 40)
12. Bike Spokes (Tape 02)
13. Fernsprecher (Tape 75)
14. Submarines in Space (Tape 07)
15. Film Drei (Tape 09)



HIGHLIGHTS

- For **Heiko Maile**, the beginnings of **Camouflage** represent a discovery of ideas, compositions, arrangements, sound and not least the technical question of the recording process
- Most of the tracks on this album were recorded with a basic stereo (2-track) cassette recorder. The studio set-up included a drum computer (no MIDI) and a sequencer connected to each other and synchronized rhythmically.
- Melodic sequences and rhythms were composed and manually transposed to the desired pitch using keyboards. Other live instruments were played over the top.

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