



TERRY RILEY Descending Moonshine Dervishes

Label

BEACON SOUND

Format

LP

Catalog Number

BNSD 017LP

UPC

769791965096



Store Price

\$19.39

Release Date

08/09/24

Territory

NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre

FILE UNDER - R - ELECTRONIC

BEACON
\\ SOUND

DESCRIPTION

Accurately described by **Thurston Moore** as "great for meditating to the cosmos," **Terry Riley**'s classic *Descending Moonshine Dervishes* is available again in a limited edition repress manufactured by Optimal in Germany. Originally recorded live in Berlin in 1975 and released by Kuckuck in 1982, Beacon Sound reissued the album in 2016 to widespread acclaim. Using just intonation and a modified organ, Riley conjures forth a rich and layered sound that challenges the Western ear, reflecting his associations with Indian classical singer **Pandit Pran Nath** and **La Monte Young**, whose *Well Tuned Piano* was well underway. *Descending Moonshine Dervishes* is a virtuosic and kaleidoscopic performance, standing as one of the finest works of a revolutionary composer and musician at the height of his powers. Recorded in concert November 29, 1975 at Metamusik Festival in Berlin. Originally mastered by **Stephen Hill**. Remastered in 2016 by **Rafael Anton Irisarri**. Front cover painting by **Helmut Zimmermann**. Back cover photography by **Roberto Masotti**.

"*Descending Moonshine Dervishes*' dates from 1975 and it belongs to a larger Dervish series of compositions whose origins predate Riley's two signature works of minimalism, 'In C' (1968) and 'A Rainbow In Curved Air' (1969)? (the piece is) structured around just intonation, which stretches the listening experience into new areas. Played on a Yamaha organ with a bit of tape delay that allows Riley to duet with himself, the music of *Descending Moonshine Dervishes* is an ear expansion that goes through skittering arpeggios and long, droning notes that indicate something of the many levels that it operates on." -**Louise Gray, The Wire Magazine** (2017)

"Terry Riley has become a totemic presence in music over the past half-century." -**The Guardian**

TRACKLISTING

01. Descending Moonshine Dervishes (Part One)
02. Descending Moonshine Dervishes (Part Two)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Beacon Sound present a limited edition repress of **Terry Riley**'s *Descending Moonshine Dervishes*, originally released in 1982.
- Recorded live in Berlin in 1975, and largely improvised, Riley plays a modified Yamaha organ with variable resistors to facilitate tuning in just intonation.
- Using just intonation, Riley conjures forth a rich and layered sound that challenges the Western ear, reflecting his associations with Indian classical singer **Pandit Pran Nath** and **La Monte Young**.

Also available:

(ANGELICA 034CD) RILEY, TERRY: *The 3 Generations Trio* CD [752725036924]
(ANGELICA 050CD) RILEY, TERRY: *Organum for Stefano* CD [745178459648]

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