



DAVID ROSENBOOM

Brainwave Music

Label
BLACK TRUFFLE

Format
2LP
 Catalog Number
BT 048LP

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 4250101404061

Store Price
\$24.99

Release Date
06/07/19

Territory
NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE
 Genre
FILE UNDER - R - EXPERIMENTAL



Portable Gold and Philosophers' Stones in Paris 1 1975 © David Rosenboom
 Pictured: J.B. Floyd



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DESCRIPTION

Black Truffle present the first ever vinyl reissue of **David Rosenboom's** legendary *Brainwave Music*, originally released on A.R.C. Records in 1975. This is an expanded double-LP edition with over 40 minutes of additional contemporaneous material. Pioneer of live electronics, innovator in music education, collaborator with artists as diverse as **Jon Hassell, Jacqueline Humbert, Terry Riley, and Anthony Braxton**, Rosenboom is renowned for his ground-breaking experiments with the use of brain biofeedback to control live electronic systems. Each of the three pieces that make up the original *Brainwave Music* LP integrates biofeedback with musical technology in different ways. In the side-long "Portable Gold and Philosophers' Stones", four performers have electrodes and monitoring devices attached to their bodies to receive information about brainwaves, temperature, and galvanic skin response. This information is analyzed and fed into a complex set of frequency dividers and filters, manned by Rosenboom, but essentially played by each of the performers through their psychophysiological responses. The result is a slowly unfolding web of filtered electronic tones over a tanpura-esque fundamental, possessing the unhurried, stately grandeur of an electronic raga. In "Chilean Drought", three different variations of a text about a drought in Chile, read by a different voice in a different style, are associated with the beta, alpha, and theta brainwave bands. Alongside an insistent piano accompaniment, three constantly shifting vocal recordings are controlled by the relative preponderance of each of the brainwave bands in the soloist. "Piano Etude I (Alpha)", the earliest piece included here, is based on research into the link between alpha brain wave production and the execution of repetitive motor tasks. As Rosenboom plays a very rapid, incessantly repeated pattern in both hands, two filters controlled by monitoring his brainwaves process the piano sound, moving gradually higher in frequency as the average alpha amplitude increases. For this reissue, the original LP is supplemented with an additional LP containing an unreleased 1977 live recording of Rosenboom's "On Being Invisible", in which the composer himself performs on an array of electronics that are fed information from his brainwaves. Stretching out over 40 minutes, the piece begins in similar territory to "Portable Gold and Philosophers' Stones" but eventually becomes far wilder, building up to pointillistic bleeps and dense layers of electronic fizz that unexpectedly cut to near-silence. As Rosenboom explains, the piece creates a situation in which the "performer's active imaginative listening became one of the ways to play their instrument, as well as an active agent in how self-organizing musical forms might emerge." Includes archival images and new notes from the composer. Gatefold sleeve design by **Lasse Marhaug**. Mastered by David Rosenboom from the original analog tape masters. Cut by **Rashad Becker** at Dubplates & Mastering, Berlin.

TRACKLISTING

- 1.01. Portable Gold and Philosophers' Stones (Music for Brains in Fours)
- 1.02. Chilean Drought
- 1.03. Piano Etude I (Alpha)
- 2.01. On Being Invisible (Live at Western Front, Vancouver) Part 1
- 2.02. On Being Invisible (Live at Western Front, Vancouver) Part 2

HIGHLIGHTS

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- Rosenboom is renowned for his ground-breaking experiments with the use of brain biofeedback to control live electronic systems.
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Also available:
 (LCD 3071 CD) ROSENBOOM/BRAXTON: *Two Lines* CD [7452953071 29]

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