



VA Spectra Ex Machina: A Sound Anthology of Occult Phenomena, 1920-2017 Vol.1

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DESCRIPTION

The anthology *Spectra Ex Machina* brings together rare documents pertaining to so-called occult phenomena, most of them taken from little-known archives. In the course of three volumes, this series traces an audio history of parapsychology through the exploration of spiritualism and haunted houses (Vol. 1); musician mediums (Vol. 2); experiences of extrasensory perceptions (clairvoyance, psychokinesis, etc.) and electronic voice phenomena (Vol. 3). The documents gathered here are, by their extravagance and far-fetched aspects, more than the mere objects of belief one would be tempted to reduce them to. They are vestiges of aberrant phenomena, fossils of an unknown civilization buried in the depths of the unconscious that are revived, in a way, when audiences listen to them. They can be understood as "works," in the full artistic sense of the word, and constitute a kind of "cabinet of sound curiosities" that is worthy of aesthetic interest. Sometimes imbued with a disconcerting dramatic intensity, these documents bear the features of an authentic time machine, placing the listener in the position of a witness of the time immersed in the dim darkness of the experimental hall. And it is at that precise moment that the aesthetic power of these archives takes precedence over their probative value. Their somewhat old-fashioned charm, maintained by the surface noise of magnetic tapes and old wax disks, gets stronger with each listen. Comes with 32-page booklet.

TRACKLISTING

Spiritual Séances and Medium Trances

01. **Arthur Conan Doyle** on Spiritualism (London, England, May 14, 1930)
02. **Gladys Osborne Leonard** and the Spirit of "Fedra," in the Presence of **Reverend W.S. Irving** and **T. Besterman** (London, England, November 17, 1932)
03. **Rudi Schneider's** Trance (London, England, 1933)
04. **Harry Houdini's** "Final Séance" (Hollywood, USA, October 31, 1936)
05. **Ivy Carter Beaumont** aka "**Rosemary**": "The Speech of Ancient Egypt, Eighteenth Dynasty" (England, July 14, 1938)
06. **Einer Nielsen** and the "Spectral Voices" of "Astrid" and "Bischof Liljeblad" (Copenhagen, Denmark, c. 1950)
07. **Leslie Flint** and the "Voice" of **Oscar Wilde** in the Presence of **Reverend W.S. Irving** and **T. Besterman** (London, England, August 20, 1962)
08. A Spiritism Séance Broadcast on the Radio (Paris. France. 1976)

Haunting Spirits and Haunted Places

09. The Rosenheim Case (Germany, December 1967)
10. The Th. Case of **Reverend W.S. Irving** and **T. Besterman** (Switzerland, April 16, 1967)
11. The S. Case (Germany, 1968)
12. The P. Case (Germany, December 1971)
13. Knocking Phenomena (Germany, 1974)
14. **Émile Tizané** about "Little Hauntings" (Paris, France, 1976)
15. Voice Produced by **Janet Hodgson** During a Trance (Enfield, England, January-February 1978)
16. **Dominique** and the "Talking Wall" (La Machine, France, 1973)
17. **Anneliese Michel's** Exorcism Ritual by **Father Arnold Renz** (Klingenberg, Germany, 1976)
18. **Denys Renaudin's** Investigation of a Haunting Case (Paris, France, 1979)
19. **Jack Sutton** and the "Haunted Airfield" (Norfolk, England, c. 1980)
20. "Paranormal" Explosion (London, England, 1995)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Volume 1 of the *Spectra Ex Machina* anthology, featuring an audio history of parapsychology through the exploration of spiritualism and haunted houses.
- The documents gathered here are, by their extravagance and far-fetched aspects, more than the mere objects of belief one would be tempted to reduce them to.
- Includes 32-page booklet.

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