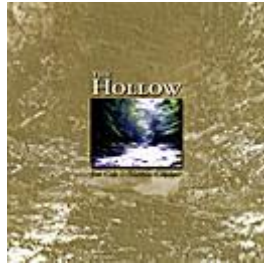


# Mp3 Jim Cole & Mathias Grassow - The Hollow



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Mesmerizing drone-based music interlacing harmonic overtone singing, electronics, and myriad acoustic sources. 7 MP3 Songs ELECTRONIC: Ambient, NEW AGE: Space Show all album songs: The Hollow Songs Details: The titles and concept for this album come from my experiences at Cotton Hollow, a place in Glastonbury (CT) of natural beauty, mystery, contemplation, and ever-green source of inspiration. "On The Hollow, Cole teams up with German ambient synthesist Matthias Grassow for a collaboration that brings out the absolute finest in both musicians, in a way that complements one another, resulting in a satisfying whole much greater than the sum of its parts. Instrumentation herein is primarily synths, flute, singing bowls, with Coles harmonic overtone singing and tamboura; guest musicians contribute glass harp, bow chimes, didgeridoo and percussion. In addition, field recordings are used generously to add effects and atmosphere, as on the opener Spring Dawn where the sound of a stream, rain, birds, and insects introduce the powerful drones that completely evaporate the limitations of an imposed listening environment. Here Coles singing ebbs and flows in and out of Grassows ever drifting ambient spaces. Ululations Through the Hollow take the drones deeper and darker, closer to the ever-expanding subconscious states where all sounds merge. Here, a faint drum beat in the distance offers a semblance of structure in the eternal drift. Things get more intense and introspective on the appropriately titled Dark Swirl, and eventually we end up at Vanishing Flame, where a fire slowly introduces Coles overtone harmonics and later Grassows drones, merging to become one organic breathing cosmic being for its 24 minute duration. Contemplation is the only cut here that features vocals by both Cole and Grassow, but an outstanding one it is." - Peter Thelen, Expos "Faint birdlife and trickling waters are heard beneath the synth-enshrouded terrain of Spring Dawn, where rising/falling vocal emissions spiral above. Lightly shimmering chimes speckle the thrumming entrance to Ululations Through the Hollow; multilayered

drones, ranging from throbbing lows to sheening highs, are eventually overwritten by a blur of metallic ethno-drumming which recedes toward the track's ending. Dense-yet-ephemeral Dark Swirl lives up to its namesake with misty expulsions streaming across cavernous spaces. The sizzling of a campfire smolders along the foundation of Vanishing Flame (23:55), a subtly evolving dreamwalk swept by electronic breezes, choral drifts..." - David Opdyke, AmbiEntrance "...the mixture of human voice, gentle yet somber (and even dark at times) keyboards, and scattered other instruments (flute, singing bowls, tamboura, didgeridoo, glass-harp, bow-chime and up-right) combine with the recordings of insects, water, rain, distant thunder, and other woodland sounds to produce a notably organic ambient recording...As with only the very best ambient music, the walls of the room you're in may start to disappear as the music plays - as it brings a ever-widening spaciousness to the environment. But, even more than that, the organic nature of the drones, washes, vocals, and other instruments color the atmosphere palpably with something more natural...The centerpiece of the recording is the nearly twenty-four minute "Vanishing Flame," a remarkably slow and evolutionary work with the sound of running water and rain melding seamlessly with drones and Cole's vocal magic. The track has several distinct phases (the nature sounds fade out eventually) but the transitions from phase to phase are patient and deliberate. It's a masterful exercise in not hurrying the music but instead allowing it to go where it will (much like water does, of course). Every track on the CD is excellent. I particularly like the opening "Spring Dawn," which is one of the "lightest" songs here, as well as the appropriately titled "Dark Swirl," one of the darker cuts on the album. The latter is a total immersion into the best kind of deep space music, as inky black smoky drones pour into overtone singing. This is followed by the delicate "Aspire," on which Mathias brings a fragile sense of beauty to his keyboards. The music on this album represents one of those rare occasions when two musicians merge their considerable talents into a true symbiotic outcome. Mathias Grassow and Jim Cole have given us a modern masterpiece." - Bill Binkelman, Editor/Publisher Wind and Wire

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