Mp3 Moshang - Stone Bell



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MoShang continues to blend traditional Asian instruments and voices with contemporary beats, connecting dots on a musical time-line that spans the ages, making sparks fly between them - when beats and notes align just so, something magical is revealed. 6 MP3 Songs in this album (18:41)! Related styles: ELECTRONIC: Folktronic, WORLD: Asian People who are interested in Air Thievery Corporation Bonobo should consider this download. Details: The scene is set with When You Come featuring the husky yet effortless voice of Nego Elias* singing in Portuguese. The excitement level is raised a notch in the choruses where the vocals are supported by a melody played in unison on the bass, acoustic guitar and synth. Rushing along at a breakneck bpm Casting Off threatens to get torn apart by its own inertia, but conversely ends up chilling in a most unexpected and satisfying way. After a harmonious dismount courtesy of Chinese jinghu, we're off to Faraway Places where danceable beats collide with Japanese shamisen and male vocals in the Esashi Oiwake style of Hokkaido island. We're firmly in deep-house territory on Undecided. A suona calls out a single sustained note shofar-like as if from a mountain top. Erhu melodies are picked up, chopped, dropped, and picked up again to be echoed on the electric piano. Invocation opens with a tribal feel thanks to Japanese hira-daiko, shime-daiko, and shakuhachi. The track soon blossoms as the first shakuhachi is joined by a second in airy harmony and more of the Esashi Oiwake male vocals, this time drawn out like molasses to the point of digital rupture. Finally, it's time to lower the heart-rate with Waterless Well. We're led in this dubby meditation by the shomyo chanting of a Buddhist monk, interspersed with a koto melody that resonates down the centuries. * Nego Elias' vocals are taken from Carlos Dala's Ao Toque da Campainha and are used here under a Creative Commons Attribution license. They can be downloaded in isolation from ccMixter.org. MoShang is the Chinese moniker of Jean Marais, who began as a choral singer in

the early 1980s in Cape Town, South Africa at which time he acquired his first computer, a Commodore VIC-20. It would take some time, however, for his love of music and computers to find its ideal expression. Marais first earned acclaim as lead singer/frontman of the South African art-rock band Duusman and as saxophonist for the group Tsunami; he also served as producer on three award-winning albums honoring poet Breyten Breytenbach and formed half of the Afrikaans pop duo 12Hz. He garnered South Africas prestigious Avanti Award for his score to the short film Angels in a Cage His music was featured on the HDTV Discovery Channel production Fantastic Festivals Of The World. Marais relocated to the Taiwanese city of Taichung in 2003; his first release as MoShang, Made in Taiwan, was released on his Onse Plate (Afrikaans for Our Records) imprint in 2004. His second, Chill Dynasty, followed in 2006. In 2007, he made the complete 14 track remix album "Asian Variations" available for free download under a Creative Commons license. Ive always been fascinated by Asia, and Taiwan, with its vast Chinese musical heritage, seemed the perfect place for me, he says. Ive fallen in love with Taiwan and its people; this country has truly reinvigorated my creative process. I am as excited about the musical possibilities now as the day I arrived.

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