When you think of the music to have emerged from Seattle, grunge and Sub Pop are probably the first things that come to mind. But Seattle was already home to a vibrant alternative music scene back in the 1970s. One of the most prominent synthesizer acts of the period was the trio Young Scientist. Influenced by the likes of Cluster, Harmonia and Tangerine Dream, they released their music exclusively on cassette. We are delighted to present their superb debut album from 1979, the hypnotic-meditative-cyclical “Results, Not Answers” on CD and vinyl for the very first time!

Young Scientist (Marc Barreca, James Husted, and Roland Barker) – released four cassettes as 1979 blazed a trail into the 1980s, capturing the electric excitement of their live shows, unwriting the rules with no less fervour than their punk rock neighbours.

Marc Barreca recalls: We definitely were out to create immersive, sonically rich spaces. Lots of layers of sound. Lots of tape loops added to the synth sounds before samplers were really a thing. Sound worlds for people to be taken to for awhile.

All three members of Young Scientist played synthesizers. The “Results, Not Answers” album presents Young Scientist in full flow through four tracks, forty minutes of hypnotic and/or rhythmic soundscapes. Although the band admit that they did not pay much attention to the recording process itself, the selections on “Results, Not Answers” are crystal clear and have effortlessly stood the test of time. “Brainless” ripples with tension through its fifteen and a half minutes, “Eastern Clouds” swirls with sitars before we loop through “Music For Feet” to the meditative, spiritualized patterns of “Omega”. “Results, Not Answers” shines a light on Seattle at an incredibly creative juncture in the city’s musical history.

James Husted recalls: The Seattle scene at the time was very active. There were many bands playing music across the spectrum. Many “Art”, “Punk”, “Experimental”, “New Wave” etc. bands were forming and reforming all the time then. Many of the bands had no desire to get a “big record deal” and were playing music so far from the mainstream that they knew it would never happen. It was an extremely creative time musically, one I personally feel blessed to be a part of.

There were small clubs and venues you could rent that allowed all ranges of music to be played, from pop to experimental electronic music. Young Scientist opened for the Dead Kennedys once, that shows how wide the spectrum could be at times.

I feel ALL the bands of that time were pioneers in the genres they played. They all pushed boundaries. I think in the electronic music scene, Young Scientist was definitely one of the pioneers and leaders at the time. We played many more shows and different venues than any other electronic music band at the time.

I was on a panel at the local Decibel Festival called “The history of electronic music in Seattle” and I was amazed at how little the audience, and even other panel members, knew about the experimental music scene of that era in Seattle. To all of them electronic music meant electronic dance music. They had no idea about the vibrant experimental music that happened decades before the times they knew about.

Tracklisting:
1. Brainless (15:38)
2. Eastern Clouds (6:21)
3. Music For Feet (9:45)
4. Omega (8:06)

Label: Bureau B
Cat no.: BB 305
Distributor: Indigo

Vinyl EAN: 4015698023480
Vinyl order no.: LP 168731
CD EAN: 4015698023459
CD order no.: CD 168732

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