

Beyond Our Orbit

By

Tom Moore & Mike Clay

Written by

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The dream of space travel, to seek out new life and to explore regions of the universe as of yet unknown to man, has been something of a fantasy of mine ever since I can remember, I dreamt of far off places in summer star filled skies as a child, now I believe I have the perfect sound track for that memory filled perambulation, in this latest work by **Tom Moore a& Mike Clay** entitled **Beyond Our Orbit**.

This sojourn into the stars starts with the opening offering entitled **Leaving Our Orbit**, the repeating pattern on synths creates a fine sense of upward movement into the inky blackness of space; this smooth musical narrative is further enhanced by the clever draw back and quietening of sound towards the end, to issue forth a change of location and energy.

An Infinite Moment, this is a magical composition that really draws us in deep, the tranquil and vast layered sounds here perfectly illustrate the freedom found at the point past the orbit of Earth, freedom to float and explore. The performance by both artists here is sublime in manifesting such a tranquil, yet awe inspiring landscape.

You will find this album a release that is impossible to put down, its addictive qualities stem from its crafted production and heartfelt performances, much like the one to be found on this next offering entitled **Leaving The Heliosphere**. Oh *Helios*, may your rays of heat and a healing, shine down upon us all for an eternity. The ethereal voices within this offering are transcendent, in a composition that is as emotive as it is jaw dropping in its brilliance.

At the half way juncture we come across an offering called **Interstellar Space**, a track with a slightly more tentative nature to begin with perhaps, the artistry by Moore and Clay is ambience personified, this is a track that seems to be in between one location and another, after all, what actually is space! The swirling synths here are wonderfully creative and manifest for the listener, a gloriously wide open expanse to explore.

This album has been a pleasure for me to listen to, and compositions like this fill my heart with a joy I haven't felt for many years, this soothing yet galactic arrangement is uplifting and at times quite moving as well, and called **Between Orbits**; it reminds me of the great days of *Tomita* and *Vangelis*, and those so illustrative soft passages of outer worldly magic, magic captured here by Moore and Clay, with such a reality of freedom and peace.

Our journey has taken us into the deeper regions of space and we are literally **Light Years from Home**, through the music we can visualise a myriad of solar systems, stars of differing intentions and stages of life, and worlds that seem to fill the blanket sky with a sense of a reassurance that there is a very special grand plan in play. The electronic genius of both artists in manifesting this feeling is incredibly palpable and exceptionally profound, and with each key and sequence used, it draws this picture closer into focus for us.

The longest offering from the album at just over eight minutes is called **Zone Of Mystery** and exemplifies for us a perfect portrait of a region of space known as the *Kuiper Belt*, the mysterious qualities of this area, this veritable borderlands of our solar system, is created wonderfully by Moore and Clay here, with a performance that reminds me in texture of the Europe's leading electronic genius *Kevin Kendle*, a truly magnificent and mystifying arrangement indeed.

Sadly we must draw our journey into the stars to a close, but before we do so we can listen to one last musical gift from the artists, it is called **The Last Communication**. Once more a sense of ambient perfection can be found here, but there is also a parting gift in this last musical present, it is called hope, hope that any parting transmission, any final communication may reach the ears and hearts of other worlds, who could perhaps, teach us how to look after

ours better. Moore and Clay end with a reflective yet hopeful energy, and finish the release with one of the most elegant pieces of the album.

Beyond Our Orbit by **Tom Moore & Mike Clay** is an album that reflects all that is good within the electronic music genre, it is a release that takes us on a journey, but paints for us colourful and wondrous works of art along the way. In my view this is easily the best space styled release I have heard for a few years, it is going to be one that I shall constantly be coming back to time and time again, the sense of freedom, the feeling of peace and the emotional connection to all that resides above us was a total winner for me, as I hope it will be for you as well, and thus an utterly recommend release.