



Bio information: **ROGER CLARK MILLER**

Title: ***CURIOSITY FOR SOLO ELECTRIC GUITAR ENSEMBLE*** (Cuneiform Rune 543)

Format: CD / DIGITAL

www.cuneiformrecords.com

FILE UNDER: **ROCK / CLASSICAL / COMPOSITION / IMPROVISATION**

**ROGER CLARK MILLER is Best Known as the Guitarist in Mission of Burma
Where He Expanded the Vocabulary of Rock Guitar by Incorporating
Elements of Free Jazz and 20th Century Classical Music
CURIOSITY FOR SOLO ELECTRIC GUITAR ENSEMBLE
Is an Expansion upon His Previous Ground-Breaking Release
'Eight Dream Interpretations for Solo Electric Guitar Ensemble'
His Restless Creativity Keeps Moving**

Roger C. Miller : Custom Stratocaster 6-string; three Rogue lap-steels (on legs), two prepared, one tuned unison E; multiple foot-pedals/sound-altering devices; Boomerang III Looper.

There are **four Dream Interpretations** on this album, structured by dreams from his dream journal. This round of Dream Interpretations, while still numbered in the order they were composed, are given titles, the same titles the dreams were in fact named in Miller's dream journal. New techniques have developed since the previous album, and the Lap-steels are used more extensively.

There is also "**Curiosity on Mars**", a longer composition which partakes of Miller's "Natural Phenomena" composing technique for generating structure/form. Five photographs taken by NASA's Mars Rover "Curiosity" are used to organize the five sections of the piece. Occasionally the music is impressionistic, but mostly the music follows the specific arrangement and shapes of rocks and minerals in the photographs.

Miller has performed his "Solo Electric Guitar Ensemble" music from Toronto to Washington, DC. It is performed on multiple guitars with multiple loops and devices. While the sounds produced are sometimes dizzying, they are always physical and made in real time. In performance, Miller sits in his cockpit, able to reach all four guitars and a plethora of pedals from one position. It requires intense concentration to play these compositions, but they could not have occurred any other way.

**Select Press quotes for his 2022 album,
"Eight Dream Interpretations for Solo Electric Guitar Ensemble."**

Premier Guitar:

"The post-punk 6-string hero takes a deep dive into sonic surrealism with his new album, a loop-driven collection of riveting soundscapes."

The Best Experimental Music on Bandcamp, Sept.2022:

"Most impressive is the guitarist's tonal control - this music may emerge from the fog of sleep, but Miller's deft handling is crystal clear."

POP Matters:

“His skills as a guitar player and his bottomless imagination have collided in a perfect encapsulation of the two traits, bringing forth a third strand that just can’t be imitated by anyone else, no matter how hard anyone should try.”

MOJO, March 2023 (4 stars):

“Miller finds plenty of room to operate fruitfully in the terrain between the more challenging Fripp led instrumental segments of a King Crimson live show and a lost American Primitive classic from 1971.”

All About Jazz (it was also in their “Best of 2022”):

“The dance between composition, performance and improvisation is unique, the end result of Miller's long journey into these lands.”

The Arts Fuse, Boston. Dec. 2022:

“As fluid and experimental as Eight Dream Interpretations is, the album’s rambunctious sonic palette is nothing if not inviting.”

BIO:

Roger Miller is a guitarist, pianist, composer, bassist, singer, percussionist and occasional cornet player. He has been a band leader since 1967. His recordings have appeared on Cuneiform, Matador, Fire, Ace of Hearts, SST, New Alliance, Forced Exposure, Feeding Tube, World in Sound, Atavistic, Sublingual and Fun World. He has toured nationally since 1979 and internationally since 1998. His career officially began in 1979 when he co-founded the influential post-punk band **Mission of Burma** on guitar and vocals. They have a chapter in the bible of indie rock history “**Our Band Could be Your Life**”, and their documentary “**Not a Photograph**” was listed in Huffington Post's 18 must-watch documentaries. They folded in 1983 due to his tinnitus. He formed **Birdsongs of the Mesozoic** on piano in 1981 and continued in it until 1988. The group blended minimalism, classical, and rock. From 1983-1989 he created his **Maximum Electric Piano** work, utilizing prepared piano and loops. From 1989 until 1998 he released numerous records as leader, all quite different from each other, on guitar or keyboards. In 1998 he joined the silent film accompanying ensemble **Alloy Orchestra** on keyboards which continues to the present under the new name **The Anvil Orchestra**. Roger Ebert said “Alloy Orchestra is the best in the world at accompanying silent film”. From 2002-2015 Mission of Burma reformed to high acclaim, and Roger split his touring time between Burma and Alloy. During this time he composed many soundtracks for documentary films, four which premiered at Sundance. In 2010 he began composing chamber music again and his compositions have been performed at the New England Conservatory, Tufts University and elsewhere, continuing to the present. His art installation, “**Transmuting the Prosaic**”, showed at the Brattleboro Art Museum in 2020 and 3S Artspace in Portsmouth, NH, in 2022. He continues working in multiple formats, and plans to do so into the far distant future.

rogerclarkmiller.com