



tobiaslilja



n5MD
emotional experiments in music
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bio

At a young age Tobias Lilja grew fond of the immediacy of the electronic music creation process. With his older brother's help he learned the Amiga and then later hardware samplers. It was at this time that Tobias put down the trumpet for a more expressive and emotional creative process. Tobias' early project Aztech which was included on the "Chillosophy" series of compilations from the Digital Structures imprint was his first foray into electronics. But the human element that Tobias left behind with the trumpet would soon return via his love for the harmonium, an instrument that is still in his music today. 2003 saw Tobias release "Ex-Leper" on Nonresponse. With Ex-leper Tobias offered a cold and melancholic view of events that crippled the town he inhabited at the time. Ex-leper is focused musical painting of a ghost town in its final stage of decay. Shortly after the release of Ex-Leper, Tobias started to study pop music structures in an experiment to add vocals to his cold yet emotional style. Tobias Lilja's current musical incarnation by the artist admission is "controlled desperation" and is said to be influenced by some of the more current rough expressionist work of David Sylvian. Tobias is currently hard at work on his n5MD full-length "Time Is On My Side" which feature his melodic vocal experiments for the first time, adding a subtle warm human element to the chill that is Tobias Lilja.

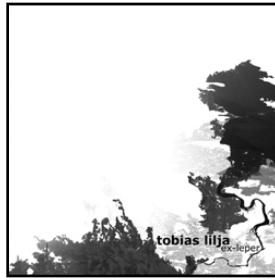
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discography



ex-leper

compact disc

This debut full-length from Swedish artist Tobias Lilja offers a cold and melancholic birdseye view of what was, an what's to come. Peeks of optimism seep through; but this aural on-site report of our day to day living remains candidly bleak. Icy peaks of high pitched electronics meet dirty midrange live instrumentation, in a highly structured, but ghostly, affair. Loess lends their production on track 'spetaelska'.



time is on my side

compact disc

"Time Is on My Side" is Swedish experimental composer Tobias Lilja's second full-length album and first on n5MD. This follow up to his sonic debut "Ex-leper" (nonresponse) has all the controlled visions of decay as its predecessor but with the addition of Tobias' desperate yet controlled vocals. These vocals bring to the fore-front a humanistic layer of melody to the tonal blizzard of Tobias' music yielding new dimensions which are to most, unclassifiable. Said by the artist to be somewhat loosely inspired by some of David Sylvian's recent work, this comparison though is almost a moot point due to Tobias' originality in his instrumental composition and his vocal delivery, melody and cadence. "Time Is on My Side" is truly in a world of its own. A teetering balance of contradictions... Frigid yet in some way invitingly warm, desperate with a false sense of hope, other-worldly yet somehow familiar, this balance is where Tobias Lilja excels and is proof of an artist who has found "his" sound. "Time Is on My Side" is one of those rare works of art that comes along to help you through those dark times when everything seems hopeless...

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