

RADIO KEROKRALL · ENGLISH EDITION

MICHAEL STEARNS

Architect of sonic space

An editorial monograph by Radio Kerokrall.

THE SOUND OF INNER PEACE

BIOGRAPHY

After moving to Los Angeles in 1975, Stearns became resident composer at Emilie Conrad's Continuum Studio. Creating live sound for movement sessions strengthened an improvisational method based on listening, gradual transformation and the physical behaviour of timbre.

The Serge modular synthesizer became central to his early mature language. Planetary Unfolding, released in 1981, remains a landmark of large-scale electronic expansion. The Beam, a long-string instrument designed by Jonathan W. Lazell and built with Paul Abell, added a distinctive world of deep physical resonance.

POETICS

Drones, long reverberant tails and gradual motion create an unusual sense of scale. Space is not merely an effect: it emerges from the distance between events and from the way frequencies occupy the field.

Deserts, oceans, rock, planets and wide horizons recur throughout the catalogue. These images orient listening without fixing a single interpretation. Space music becomes a form of perspective, making slow transformations audible.

LISTENING

Follow the complete arc at moderate volume. Notice how depth, luminosity and density evolve without relying on conventional themes.

Listen for continuity between drones, distant signals and slow harmonic motion.

CINEMA

Collaborations with director Ron Fricke connect Stearns to Chronos, Baraka and Samsara. In these non-verbal films, music carries narrative weight through scale, rhythm, contrast and continuity. His wider screen credits also include contributions to major productions; each role must be described according to its specific credit, not as authorship of an entire score.

In Ron Fricke's non-verbal cinema, music links places, speeds, rituals and transformations without describing them literally. Its force comes from audiovisual construction, not from unsupported claims about frequencies or consciousness.

CURATION

Do not fragment suites or continuous forms arbitrarily. Preserve low-frequency depth, dynamics and carefully auditioned transitions. Verify individual screen credits with precision.

Radio Kerokrall received five authorised WAV files in September 2026: Encounter, Craft, Lost World Theme, Imu Paru and Crystal Canyon. Operational titles and versions remain governed by Master v6.9.

SOURCES

Michael Stearns official catalogue - <https://michaelstearns.bandcamp.com/>

Official Bandcamp discography - <https://michaelstearns.bandcamp.com/music>

Chronos official edition -

<https://michaelstearns.bandcamp.com/album/chronos-re-mastered-film-printmaster-stereo-fold-down>

Projekt Records: Planetary Unfolding - <https://www.projekt.com/store/product/pro00393/>

EDITORIAL NOTE

Independent editorial content by Radio Kerokrall. No music tracks, masters or on-demand repertoire are included. No clinical or therapeutic claim is made.