"O mighty course that runs within and through all...From you the clouds flow forth, the wind takes flight." *O ignis Spiritus paracliti* – Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)



Wind Takes Flight | Hildegard X Electronics Marijn Cinjee, synthesizer | Julia Sinclair, soprano | NI 6457

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CD and DIGITAL HD

Julia Sinclair, soprano

Julia Sinclair is a classically trained professional soloist and consort singer, who has been exploring the work of Hildegard in recent years and has performed her compositions in Brussels, Berlin and Amsterdam.

Marijn Cinjee

Marijn Cinjee is an electronic artist from the Netherlands. He pursues immersive audiovisual experiences that seek to both amaze and provoke, with the goal of evoking the listener's emotions and sensations from within

"Just as Hildegard's music was shaped by the acoustics of her world, space has played a vital role in our creative process. We experimented with different acoustic environments, using them as an integral part of the music. By layering voice and electronics within a spatial dimension, we were able to create immersive soundscapes that subtly shift and trans-form the listener's perception. In *Spring*, for example, the dark, intimate acoustics of the recording space - a tunnel underground in Utrecht, lend an unexpected, slightly unsettling edge to the purity of the voice - creating the subtle yet powerful musical tension we sought." © Julia Sinclair & Marijn Cinjee

"Wind Takes Flight began with a simple yet powerful idea: to reimagine the music of Hildegard of Bingen, the 12th-century mystic and composer, through the lens of modern electronic soundscapes. The title, drawn from one of Hildegard's sacred poems featured on the album, also reflects her love of birds and the natural world. These have been enduring sources of inspiration for us throughout this creative journey.

As collaborators, we, - Julia Sinclair, an English soprano soloist, and Marijn Cinjee, a Dutch electronic musician - were drawn to the timeless spirituality and beauty of Hildegard's work. The idea of bringing together our two musical worlds to create something new and transformative felt both exciting and inevitable. In April 2023, we debuted an experimental live improvisation inspired by Hildegard's hymn O ignis Spiritus paracliti at Stone Nest in London, in an immersive listening experience using more than 40 loudspeakers driven by the 4DSOUND spatial sound system. The audience's response to the soaring vocal lines and immersive electronic textures confirmed that we were onto something special, and that performance became the foundation for Wind Takes Flight, the album's title track. Over the next eighteen months, we poured ourselves into this project, crafting what would become Wind Takes Flight. The album is a conversation across time beginning with Hildegard's chants and evolving into a love letter to her music, merging her sacred compositions with contemporary sound design while remaining true to the deep spirituality and reverence of her music. Premièring the album live in spatial sound at Het Concertgebouw in Amsterdam was an unforgettable experience, captured in the drama and beauty of Ekstasis, a piece created for that performance. Now, we're thrilled to share Wind Takes Flight with You. This album is more than music; it's a bridge between past and present, an invitation to step into a space where ancient echoes meet modern innovation, and where the spirit of Hildegard of Bingen - artist, composer, and pioneer soars anew." © Julia Sinclaire & Marijn Cinjee