

Artist: Mike Florio

Title: Artifacts Volume 2

Genres: Prog, Electronic

Released: September 2, 2022

Label: Independent Records

Catalog: IR45247

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Mike Florio is a keyboard player and vocalist based in New York's lower Hudson Valley and has produced projects ranging from classic and progressive rock to electronic and soundtrack music. Mike's fifth studio release, Artifacts Volume 2, features a stunning collection of experimental songs and instrumental pieces recorded over the last few years:

"I had about half the album done, then the pandemic hit and I found myself with lots more time at home to finish it off. I've always got a few projects going at once - not just my own but with other artists as well, so it's a big relief when something finally gets finished and I can toss it onto the pile and move on."

The music on Artifacts Volume 2 is similar in respects to 2013's Volume 1, which has been described as 'prog-soundtrack-rock', but Volume 2 goes deeper:

"This one is more personalized. Volume 1 was mostly things I wrote for other projects, while this one was written just for my own enjoyment."

From the epic bombast of songs like *Rock Zen Ken*, the surreal subtlety of *Summer Reveal*, to the sheer complexity of *Inner Sanctum*, the album does indeed go deep:

"Artifacts is sort of my category for stuff that doesn't quite fit any particular style or presentation. The general rule is that it's basically whatever I can do on my own, without the restrictions of a band format - so there's lots of experimenting. The studio essentially becomes my instrument, and the music is mostly composed as it's recorded rather than being sketched out in advance like my band material. It's a very liberating way to work."

Earlier this year Artifacts Volume 2 was voted among the top releases of 2022 by music journals **ReZonatZ** and **Power of Prog**. The album is currently being sold on Bandcamp by Melodic Revolution Distribution. CDs and downloads are both available:

"I really don't promote my work much, so it's always a nice surprise to get a favorable mention somewhere. And I still press CDs – even though the distribution channels have pretty much gone away for independents like me. So I'm real appreciative of MRR for stocking it."

Visit Mike on the web at: www.massdream.com

MIKE FLORIO

ARTIFACTS
volume 2

