

JAZZ & BLUES MUSIC

AVANT-GARDE & EXPERIMENTAL

JZ-AG1 Faroe Islands 1987

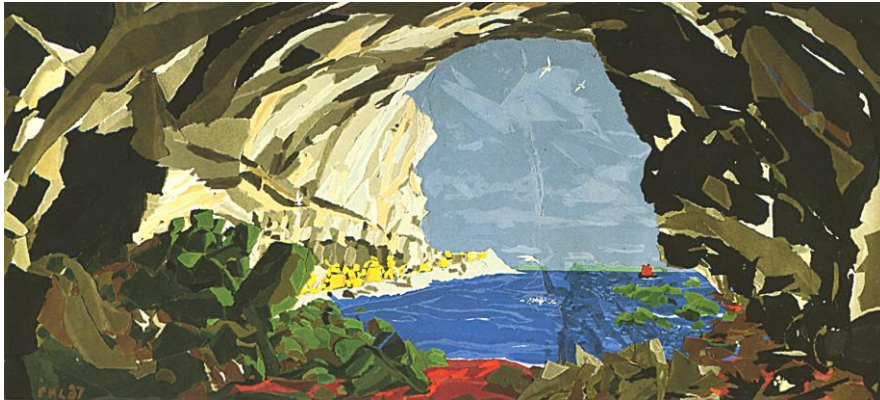
ANTIFONALE

JZ – Avant-garde – Combo – Instrumental – Cave Pic Cover

Selections:

Side One – 1. INTONAZIONE – 4:15/ 2. CANZONE AFRICANA – 6:46/ 3. RICERCAR – 3:58/ 4. PASSAMEZZO – 7:24

Side Two – 1. L'INCONTRO DE DANTE ED OFFENBACH NELL'ALTRO MONDO – 8:32/ 2. IO PUR RESPIRO – 3:41/ 3. TOCCATA – 5:05/ 4. VILLANELLA – 4:03



Comp: Kristian BLAK

Perf: Anders Hagberg (flute & tenor sax)

Morten Carlsen (tenor sax)

Kristian Blak (piano)

Irene Becker (piano & synthesizers)

Pierre Dørge & Eyðun Hansen (guitars)

Kolbein Simonsen (bass)

Marilyn Mazur (drums)

Prod: Kristian Blak

Prod. Co: Plátufelagið Tutl; Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

Rec. Co: Sound Track Studio; Copenhagen, Denmark

Rec. Date: Dec. 1987

Liner Notes: (Uncredited)

Time: (See above)

1. **LP:** ANTIFONALE

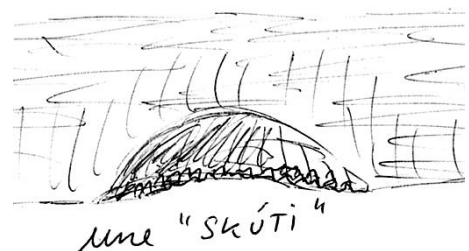
Tutl HJF 18

12' 33rpm (Sides 1 & 2)

2. **CD:** ANTIFONALE

Tutl HJF 20 (Tks 1– 8)

Notes: This suite of 8 jazz pieces was inspired by Bláfellsskútin, a sea cave shelter on the north coast of Sandoy (halfway between Skopun and Skalavik) in the Faroe Islands (see map).



Sandoy is a medium-sized island situated near the middle of the archipelago. This large overhanging rock amphitheater in the sea cliffs is called a “skúti” (note Kristian Blak’s sketch of a “skúti”), thus the name, Bláfells-skútin. Local legend would have it that this shelter cave connects by a subterranean passage with Líðargjógv, a large fissure sea cave on the south coast of Sandoy. The latter cave inspired Kristian Blak to compose an earlier jazz suite, “Concerto Grotto,” (see below [JZ-AG8](#)) which he recorded live with his group, Yggdrasil, in that same cave.

“The music is based on musical forms of the Italian Renaissance, particularly Venetian style, in which antiphony, ‘contra sound,’ was frequently employed.” (Liner notes) The antiphonal forms of that period merge naturally with the call-and-response inheritance of jazz. The “ricercar” was a precursor of the fugue and for this piece “the two guitarists solo around each other over a strong 4/4 swing.” (Iaanapallo 1988) One critic noticed that the “waves washing below Bláfellsskútin are ... suggested by the guitars and cymbals.” (Grant 1988)

Commenting on this album, one jazz critic wrote – “Blak’s music always has a bright and airy quality. This can be attributed to his affinity to nature and nature themes. That sound carries over to this project. And it’s that breezy quality that ultimately makes Blak’s music so likeable.” (Iaanapallo 1988)

Ref: Anders Hagberg, Website, andershagberg.se

Blak, Kristian, Letter dated 12 Dec. 1994, Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

Grant, Bill 1988, Music Reviews – The Vinyl Decision, Ottawa, Canada, (Source & date unknown)

Iaanapallo, Robert 1988, (Review) Kristian Blak – Antifonale, *Cadence*, (Exact date unknown)

Kristian Blak, Antifonale LP, [Allmusic](#)

Kristian Blak, Antifonale LP, [Discogs](#)

Kristian Blak, Bio, [Wikipedia](#)

JZ-AG2 Germany 2002

BLUE CAVE

JZ – Avant-garde – Instrumental – Cave Pic Cover

Comp: (?)

Perf: Chris **KRAMER**

Günter Müller

Hakim Luden

Christopher John

Prod. Co: Blow Till Midnight

Time: 4:03

CD: BLUE CAVE

Blow Till Midnight (?) (Tk 7)

Notes: Best known as a blues harmonica ace, Kramer delves into ambient jazz here.

Begins with wavering low keyboard, wandering bird calls, metallic tinkles, then tick-tock-tock-tock percussion. This continues with ambient carelessness for a few minutes until all fades.

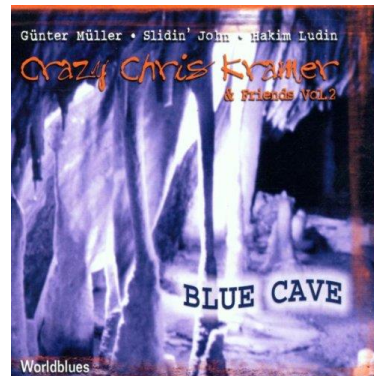
Ref: Chris Kramer, Bio, Official site, chris-kramer.de

Chris Kramer, Bio (in German), [Wikipedia](#)

Chris Kramer & Friends, Blue Cave, (4:01), [getlinkyoutube](#) (◀ **COMPLETE AUDIO SAMPLE**)

Crazy Chris Kramer & Friends Vol. 2, Blue Cave CD, [Amazon.de](#) (◀ **AUDIO SAMPLE**)

Crazy Chris Kramer & Friends Vol. 2, Blue Cave CD, [bear-family](#) (◀ **AUDIO SAMPLE**)



JZ-AG3 United States 1991

THE CAVE

JZ – Avant-garde – Free – Instrumental

Comp: Loren MAZZACANE CONNERS

Perf: Loren **MAZZACANE CONNERS** (guitar)

Brian Johnson (percussion)

Prod: Loren Mazacane, Suzanne Langille, & Steve Peters

Prod. Co: What next? Recordings; Seattle, WA

Rec. Co: Harold Dessau Recording



Liner Notes: Steve Peters (Uncredited)

Time: 1:49 or 1:39

CD: COME NIGHT

What Next? WN 0004 (Tk 5)

Notes: A 30-second audio clip gave a pretty clear idea – pings on guitar, short silence, and a string of pings and strums.

Ref: Loren Conners, Come Night CD, [Allmusic](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

Loren Conners, Come Night CD, [Discogs](#)

Loren Conners, Official Website, [fvrec](#)

Loren Mazzacane Conners, Bio, [Wikipedia](#)

JZ-AG4 United States 2003

THE CAVE

JZ – Experimental – Instrumental

Comp: Future Man [aka. Roy Wooten]

Perf: Bela FLECK & THE FLECKTONES

Future Man [aka. Roy Wooten] (Roy-El piano)

Prod: Bela Fleck

Prod. Co: Sony Music Entertainment Inc.

Roy WOOTEN

Time: 1:35

CD: LITTLE WORLDS

Columbia C3K 86353 (3XCDs) (Disc 3 – Tk 1)

Notes: A concept album with a little bit of this and that – hip-hop, Irish folk, Hawaiian, funk, etc. (Johnson 2014) One listener remarked – “ ‘The Cave’ sounded like Future Man just pushed record and started fooling around with stuff.” (Sor Fingers 2005)

The audio sample has slow slap-percussive beats along with weird wavering ghostly wails and diverse bird-like sounds.

Bela Fleck also composed and performed a New Grass piece entitled, “The Natural Bridge Suite” (see under Country Music – [Bluegrass](#)).

Ref: Bela Fleck & The Flecktones, Little Worlds CD, [Discogs](#)

Bela Fleck & The Flecktones, Little Worlds, [Wikipedia](#)

Bela Fleck & The Flecktones, The Cave, (1:35), [YouTube](#) (◀COMPLETE AUDIO SAMPLE)

Johnson, Zac 2014, Review, Bela Fleck, Little Worlds CD, [Allmusic](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

Sor Fingers 2005, Customer’s Reviews, Little Worlds CD, [Amazon](#)



JZ-AG5 Germany 2003

CAVE

JZ – World – Avant-garde – Ambient – Instrumental

Comp: Tomasz KUKURBA, Jerzy BAWOL, Dariusz GRELA, & Tomasz LATO

Rts: Oriente Misik

Perf: KROKE

Tomasz Kukurba (violin,
wind instruments, & mouth percussion)

Jerzy Bawol (accordion)

Tomasz Lato (bass)

Prod: Kroke & Dariusz Grela

Prod. Co: Oriente Musik; Berlin

Rec. Co: NLD Studio; Kraków

Rec. Date: July-August 2002

Time: 6:29 (6:24)

CD: TEN PIECES TO SAVE THE WORLD

Oriente RIEN CD 45 (Tk 4)

Notes: A Polish klezmer trio, whose name “Kroke” means Krakow in Yiddish.



It's safe to say that this piece was inspired by a cave, for their 1999 CD album, "The Sounds of the Vanishing World," contained pieces entitled, "Earth," "Air," "Fire," and "Water," showing their profound interest in nature. Kroke has been associated with klezmer music with strong Balkan influences. "Klezmer is a musical tradition of the Ashkenazi Jews of Eastern Europe. Played by professional musicians called *klezmerim*, the genre originally consisted largely of dance tunes and instrumental display pieces for weddings and other celebrations." (Anon. 2014)

Contrary to other pieces on this album, which are klezmer music, this difficult-to-classify piece begins with long serene synthesizer chords (artist unknown) and a few echoing water drops. Then a busy shaker-like rhythm (mouth percussion?) comes in behind joined by a few bars of flute and some more drops and then some keyboard all held together with the long synth chords. The accordion joins in to play a tune then goes out and comes back. There is a quiet passage with just subtle percussion and low synth notes. An oboe plays a bit followed by haunting whines backed by a lively, swinging bass and the shaker-like rhythm, then all fades under Morse code beeps.

Ref: Anon. 2014, Klezmer, Jewish music, [Wikipedia](#)

Kroke, Bio, [Wikipedia](#)

Kroke, Official Website, [Kroke](#)

Kroke, Ten Pieces to Save the World CD, [Tower](#)

JZ-AG6 Germany 2004

CAVE (LIVE)

JZ – World – Avant-garde – Ambient – Instrumental

Comp: Tomasz KUKURBA, Jerzy BAWOL, Dariusz GRELA, & Tomasz LATO

Arr: Kroke & Tomasz Grochot

Rts: Oriente Misik

Perf: **KROKE**

Tomasz Kukurba (viola & flute)

Jerzy Bawol (accordion)

Tomasz Lato (bass)

Tomasz Grochot (drums & percussion)

Prod. Co: Oriente Musik; Berlin

Rec. Co: Radio Kraków Studio; Kraków

Rec. Date: Oct. 9-10, 2003

Time: 7:25

CD: QUARTET – LIVE AT HOME

Oriente RIEN CD 48 (Tk 10)

Notes: Another version, this time with Tomasz Grochot on drums (not shown in photo). The 30-second sample had the ensemble playing a slow surging theme.

This was performance was part of two live concerts given at the Radio Kraków Studio to honor and thank their hometown friends for the long-time support they had provided.

Ref: Kroke, Bio, [Wikipedia](#)

Kroke, Official Website, [Kroke](#)

Kroke, Quartet – Live at Home, [Allmusic](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

Kroke, Quartet – Live at Home, [Oriente Musik](#)



Photo by Jacek Dylağ

JZ-AG7 Canada 2000

THE CAVE DWELLERS

JZ – Avant-garde – Instrumental

Comp: QUEEN MAB

Perf: **QUEEN MAB**

Marilyn Lerner (piano)

Lori Freedman (bass clarinet)

Prod. Co: Spool Records

Rec. Loc: Music Gallery; Toronto, Ontario

Lori FREEDMAN



Rec. Date: June 1999

Time: 12:17

CD: CLOSE

Spool SPL 111 (Tk 6)

Notes: This free jazz duo is from Montreal.

The 30-second sample has sustained notes on bass clarinet.

Ref: Couture, François 2014, Lori Freedman, Bio, [Allmusic](#)

Marilyn Lerner, Bio, Official site, [marilynlerner](#)

Queen Mab, Close CD, [CDBaby](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

Queen Mab, Close CD, [Discogs](#)

JZ-AG8 Australia 1995

CAVE OF DREAMS

JZ – Experiential – Instrumental

Comp: Roger FRAMPTON

Perf: Roger **FRAMPTON** (prepared piano)

Prod: Roger Frampton & Belinda Webster

Prod. Co: Tall Poppies Records

Rec. Co: Studio C, 2MBS-FM; Sydney

Rec. Date: June 1989

Time: 15:58 or 16:06

CD: TWO PIANOS, ONE MIND

Tall Poppies 006 (Tk 8)

Notes: Roger Frampton has influences from free jazz and experimental composers in contemporary art music.

One audio sample had short lyric dabbling and another sample had insistent rhythmic rambling.

Ref: Roger Frampton, Bio, [australianmusiccentre.com.au](#)

Roger Frampton, Bio, [Wikipedia](#)

Roger Frampton, Two Pianos One Mind CD, [Allmusic](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

Roger Frampton, Two Pianos One Mind CD, [australianmusiccentre.com.au](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

Roger Frampton, Two Pianos One Mind CD, [CDUniverse](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)



JZ-AG9 United States 1989

CAVERNS

JZ – Avant-garde – Instrumental

Comp: Paul SMOKER

Perf: **JOINT VENTURE**

Paul Smoker (trumpet)

Ellery Eskelin (tenor sax)

Drew Gress (bass)

Phil Haynes (drums)

Prod: Dave Baker & Joint Venture

Prod. Co: Enja

Liner Notes: Kevin Whitehead

Paul SMOKER

Time: 13:15

CD: WAYS

Enja 6052 (Tk 7)

Notes: The 30-second sample had Trumpeter Paul Smoker stating the theme and soloing up and down the scales.

Ref: Joint Venture, Ways CD, [Allmusic](#)

Joint Venture, Ways CD, [CDUniverse](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

Paul Smoker, Bio, Encyclopedia of Jazz Musicians, [jazz](#)

Paul Smoker, Bio, Official site, [paulsmoker](#)



JZ-AG10 Faroe Islands 1984

CONCERTO GROTTO *

JZ – Avant-garde – Combo – Instrumental

Selections:

Side One – 1. ENTRÉE [Entrance] / 2. EAU COURANTE [Running Water] / 3. LA COLOMBE [The Dove] / 4. GIGUE RÉELLE [Real Jig]

Side Two – 1. VOYAGE AU CENTRE DE LA TERRE [Journey to the Center of the Earth] (Tchicai) / 2. AIR / 3. PIGEONNERIE [Pigeon House] / 4. SORTIE [Exit]

Comp: Kristian BLAK

Arr: Kristian Blak

Kristian BLAK

Perf: YGGDRASIL

John Tchicai (tenor sax, double ocarina, & vocal)
Kristian Blak (piano, double ocarina, & vocal)
Lelle Kullgren (guitar, bamboo flute, & vocal)
Anders Hagberg (flute, percussion, & vocal)
Anders Jormin (bass, wooden whistle, & vocal)
Karin Korpelainen (drums, tin whistle, & vocal)
Sharon Weiss (kaval, percussion)



Prod: Kristian Blak

Prod. Co: Plátufelagið Tutl; Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

Rec. Eng: (In cave) Ole Christian Hansen

Rec. Date: Aug. 1984

Cover Photo: Philippe Carré

Cover Painting: Philippe Carré

Time:

1. LP: CONCERTO GROTTO (PC-RE#)

Tutl HJF 18

12' 33rpm (Sides 1 & 2) (Gatefold cover)

2. Reissue on CD: CONCERTO GROTTO OG DRANGAR (1999)

Orchard 3612 (Tks 9 – 16)

3. Reissue on CD: CONCERTO GROTTO OG DRANGAR (2002) (PC-RE#)

Tutl HJF 33 (Tks 9 – 16)



Notes: A whole suite of 8 jazz pieces composed to be played live in the Líðargjógv (Lidarg Cave) on the island of Sandoy in the Faroe Islands of the North Atlantic. On a high ledge of this huge fissure sea cave, where the waves rush in and the late afternoon sun shines, the musicians performed with the sounds of the crashing sea and the sea birds blending in with their improvisations. "Sunlight creates interesting effects on the cave walls...Rock doves make their home in the cave...a nearby cave is called Dúgvuholið – 'Dove Cave' ...The cave has provided inspiration for the composition, and the special light and sounds of the cave, of the rocks and of the sea, are themselves integral parts of the music." (Liner notes)

A selection from this album was included in my paper, "Caves Celebrated in Recorded Music and Songs," which was presented in July 1996 during the international symposium, "Caves in the Arts," in Jósvalfö, Hungary.

When this suite was reissued on CD it was coupled with another work by Kristian Blak, "Drangar," which was recorded in a studio in 1995 and which has nothing to do with caves.

Ref: Blak, Kristian, Letter dated 12 Dec. 1994, Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

Concerto Grotto in Klæmintsgjógv, Summer 2009, (1:06), [YouTube](#) (◀VIDEO CLIP)

Dietrich, Richard V., Rock Music, *Earth Science*, Summer 1989, p. 25

Kilmack, Bill, In the Media, *NSS News*, v. 48, n. 3, Mar. 1990, p. 79

Kristian Blak, Concerto Grotto & Drangar CD, [CDUniverse](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLES)

Mills, Martin 1989, Caves in Music, *Shepton Mallet Caving Club Journal*, Series 8, n. 6, p. 283

Yggdrasil, Bio, [kristianblak](#)

Yggdrasil, Concerto Grotto LP, [Discogs](#)

JZ-AG11 Germany 1997

THE ELECTRIC CAVE

JZ – Avant-garde – Instrumental

Comp: Marilyn MAZUR, Eivind AARSET, & Nils Petter MOLVOER

Perf: **MARILYN MAZUR'S FUTURE SONG**

Marilyn Mazur (percussions)
Aina Kemanis (voice)
Nils Petter Molvoer (trumpet)
Eivind Aarset (guitar)
Hans Ulrik (sax)
Elvira Plenar (piano)
Klavs Hovman (bass)
Audun Kleive (drums)



Prod: Manfred Eicher

Prod. Co: ECM Records GmbH.; Munich

Rec. Loc: Sun Studio; Copenhagen, Denmark

Rec. Date: Aug. 1994

Time: 1:44

CD: SMALL LABYRINTHS

ECM 1559.533 679-2 (Tk 3)

Notes: The 30-second sample had chaotic drumming with cymbals, wah-wah guitar, voice, etc. The other instruments performing here were not heard.

Ref: Lindenmayer, Franz n.d., Hörsinn und Höhle [Sense of Hearing & the Cave], [lochstein.de](#)

Marilyn Mazur, Bio, [marilynmazur](#)

Marilyn Mazur, Small Labyrinths CD, [Allmusic](#)([◀AUDIO SAMPLE](#))

Marilyn Mazur, Small Labyrinths CD, [Amazon](#) ([◀AUDIO SAMPLE](#))

Marilyn Mazur, Small Labyrinths CD, [Discogs](#)

Marilyn Mazur, Small Labyrinths CD, [marilynmazur](#)

JZ-AG12 Faroe Islands 2005

FAROE CAVE SONG

JZ – Avant-garde – Instrumental – Recorded in Caves – Cave Pic Cover

Comp: John TCHICAI, Sunleif RASMUSSEN,
& Peder RIIS-JENSEN

Perf: John **TCHICAI** (percussion & vocal)

Sunleif Rasmussen (percussions, & vocal)

Peder Riis-Jensen (claves)

Prod: John Tchicai & Kristian Blak

Prod. Co: Plátufelagið Tutl; Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

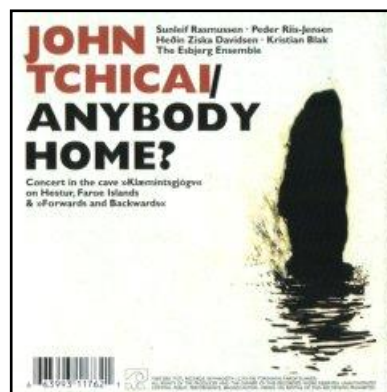
Rec. Loc: Klaemintsgjógv Cave, Isle of Hestur, Faroe Islands

Rec. Date: June 26, 2000

Time: 1:29

CD: ANYBODY HOME

Tutl 809972 (Tk 5)



Notes: This short Avant-garde jazz piece was composed for a live concert recorded in a sea cave, Klaemintsgjógv, on the south coast of the Hestur Island. The Faroe Islands are situated in the North Atlantic about halfway between Iceland and Norway. Hestur is a small island located near the middle of the archipelago north of Sandoy and southwest of the capitol town, Tórshavn, on Streymoy Island.

The 30-second Web site audio clip provided a low chattering rhythm, far-away prolonged cries that come and go resounding in the cave space, then regular beats. The remaining minute was not auditioned.

See below another cave inspired piece by John Tchicai on this album, "Hulemusik" [JZ-AG12](#) and also under Recorded in Natural Caves – Faroe Islands.

Ref: Anon. 2005, John Tchicai, Anybody Home? CD, [tut!](#)

John Tchicai, Anybody Home? CD, [Allmusic](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

John Tchicai, Anybody Home? CD, [CDUniverse](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

John Tchicai, Anybody Home? CD, [Discogs](#)

John Tchicai, Biography (in French), [Wikipedia](#) & (in English), [Wikipedia](#)

JZ-AG13 Faroe Islands 2000

GROTTOCATTA # 1

GROTTOCATTA # 2

GROTTOCATTA # 3

GROTTOBLUES

CAVEBIRDS

JZ – Avant-garde – Instrumental – Recorded in Cave – Cave Pic Cover

Comp: Karsten VOGEL

Perf: Karsten **VOGEL** (alto sax)

Kristian **BLAK** (keyboards)

Prod: Kristian Blak & Karsten Vogel

Prod. Co: Plátufelagið Tutl; Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

Rec. Loc: Klaemintsgjógv Cave, Isle of Hestur, Faroe Islands

Rec. Date: May 2000

Time: (2) 1:41; (4) 1:32; (8) 3:27; (9) 4:35; & (13) 3:38

A. Faroe Islands **CD:** LIGHT WHEN DARK

Tutl HJF 73 (Tks 2, 4, 8, 9, & 13)

B. American **CD:** LIGHT WHEN DARK (2001)

Orchard 8478 (Tks 2, 4, 8, 9, & 13)

Notes: This album includes several pieces of free jazz sax performed inside two Faroese sea caves, one on Nólsoy Island (name unknown) and the other, Klaemintsgjógv Cave, on Hestur Island. Five of these appear to have been inspired directly by the cave settings including the sea birds, but it is not known which cave inspired each of these selections.

This recording is part of a long tradition in the Faroe Islands, started by Kristian Blak in 1984, of recording jazz performances in sea caves.

See also under Recorded in Natural Caves – Faroe Islands.

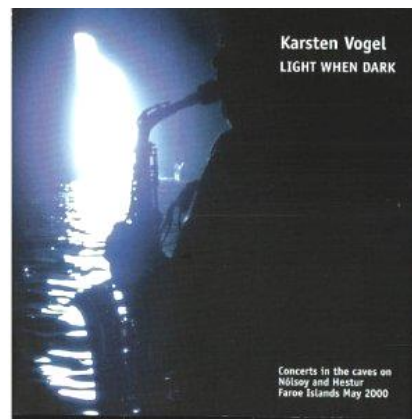
Ref: Anon. n.d., Karsten Vogel, Light When Dark CD, [tut!](#)

Karsten Vogel, Biography, Website, [karstenvogel.dk](#)

Karsten Vogel, Bio, [Wikipedia](#)

Karsten Vogel, Light When Dark CD, [Allmusic](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLES)

Karsten Vogel, Light When Dark CD, [Amazon.fr](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLES)



JZ-AG14 Faroe Islands 2005

HULEMUSIK

JZ – Avant-garde – Instrumental – Recorded in Caves – Cave Pic Cover

Comp: John TCHICAI

Perf: John **TCHICAI** (tenor sax)

Sunleif Rasmussen (percussions)

Peder Riis-Jensen (claves)

Prod: John Tchicai & Kristian Blak

Prod. Co: Plátufelagið Tutl; Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

Rec. Loc: Klaemintsgjógv Cave, Isle of Hestur, Faroe Islands

Rec. Date: June 26, 2000



Time: 11:42

CD: ANYBODY HOME

Tutl 809972 (Tk 7)

Notes: This Avant-garde jazz piece, entitled “Hulemusik” which means “Cave Music,” was composed for a live concert recorded in a sea cave, Klaemintsgjógv, on the south coast of the Hestur Island. The Faroe Islands are situated in the North Atlantic about halfway between Iceland and Norway. Hestur is a small island located near the middle of the archipelago north of Sandoy and southwest of the capitol town, Tórshavn, on Streymoy Island.

Only a very trivial notion of the full piece could be obtained from the 30-second Web site audio clip, which provided a tenor sax solo that soars and then putters around while diverse percussions set down a pattering rhythm.

See above another cave inspired piece by John Tchicai on this album, “Faroe Cave Song” [JZ-AG10](#) and also under Recorded in Natural Caves – Faroe Islands.

Ref: Anon. 2005, John Tchicai, Anybody Home? CD, [tutl](#)

John Tchicai, Anybody Home? CD, [Allmusic](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

John Tchicai, Anybody Home? CD, [CDUniverse](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

John Tchicai, Anybody Home? CD, [Discogs](#)

John Tchicai, Biography (in French), [Wikipedia](#) & (in English), [Wikipedia](#)

JZ-AG15 United States 2001

MERILYN'S CAVE

JZ – Avant-garde – Fusion – Instrumental

Comp: Elton DEAN & Mark HEWINS

Perf: Elton DEAN (alto sax)

Mark Hewins (synth guitar)

Prod. Co: Moonjune Records

Rec. Loc: London Jazz Café; London

Rec. Date: Nov. 1992

Liner Notes: Aymeric Leroy

Time: 14:21

CD: BAR TORQUE

Moonjune 1 (Tk 3)

Notes: One critic commented on this CD album – “series of sometimes stunningly beautiful, occasionally revelatory improvisations finds the Avant-garde reedsman Elton Dean and the guitarist Mark Hewins in perfect sync, as Dean solos lyrically over the musical foundation of Hewins's (sic) atmospheric synthesized guitar. Recorded in the early 1990s, the duo spans electronic, jazz and ambient genres, in a free-form yet never formless set.” (Anon. n.d.)

The audio sample has whining sax up & down with whirring synth guitar background, then popping sax notes. Spurts of melodic phrasing.

Could this piece have been inspired by Marilyn Lerner's bass clarinet piece entitled, ‘The Cave Dwellers’ (see above [JZ-AG6](#)) or was it Marilyn Mazur's percussion piece, ‘The Electric Cave’? (see above [JZ-AG9](#))

Ref: Anon. n.d., Elton Dean, Bar Torque CD, [CDUniverse](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

Elton Dean, Bar Torque CD, [Discogs](#)

Elton Dean, Bio, [neuf.fr](#) & [Wikipedia](#)

Mark Hewins, Bio, [neuf.fr](#) & [Wikipedia](#)



JZ-AG16 United States 1981

TAPDANCIN' BATS

Jazz – Avant-garde – Instrumental – Bat Pic Cover

Comp: Keith SPRING, Terry ADAMS, Joey SPAMPINATO, Tom ARDOLINA, & Donn ADAMS

Rts: NRBQ Music Inc. & Hi Varieties Music (ASCAP)

Perf: N R B Q

[New Rhythm and Blues Quartet]

Terry Adams (piano)
Keith Spring (tenor sax)
Donn Adams (trombone)
Al Anderson (guitar)
Joey Spampinato (bass)
Tom Ardolino (drums)

Prod. Co: Red Rooster Records; Mt. Marion, NY

Time: (45) 2:44 & (LP) 2:52

A. American Release:

1. Original Single **45:**

Red Rooster RR-1002

Flip Sd: I Got a Rocket in My Pocket

2. **LP:** TAPDANCIN' BATS (1983)

Rounder 3066/ Red Rooster 107

12" 33rpm (Sd 2 – Bd 6)

3. Reissue on **CD:** TAPDANCIN' BATS:

THE ANIVERSARY EDITION (1998)

Rounder 3066 (Tk 16)

B. British **LP:** TAPDANCIN' BATS (1986)

Demon FIEND 51

C. German Releases:

1. **LP:** TAPDANCIN' BATS (1984)

Line LILP 4.00151

2. Reissue on **CD:** TAPDANCIN' BATS (1989)

Mainline MLCD 9.00151 L (Tk 12)

D. Japanese **CD:** TAPDANCIN' BATS (2005)

Hayabusa Landings CARA 3013

Spec: (Nos. A2, A3, B, & C1) 12" 33rpm (Sd 2 – Bd 6)

Notes: "NRBQ is an American rock band founded in 1967. It is known for its live performances, containing a high degree of spontaneity and levity, and blending rock, pop, jazz, blues, and Tin Pan Alley styles." (Anon. 2014) Here they branched further out all the way into Avant-garde jazz. The original quartet is shown in this photo.

A successful attempt to capture a certain "bat" sound but rather tedious to listen to. "*Tapdancin' Bats*, a spontaneously composed instrumental that sounds just like its title suggests." (DeAngelis 1984) Another critic said – "While not a perfect primer, *Tapdancin' Bats*, is indeed a batch of fun for the initiated." (Planer 2014)

A long solo of squeaky distorted electric guitar sounds, which fly this way and that way backed up by a funky clicking rhythm. At one point high-pitched tones play over the squeaky sounds. The piece ends very abruptly in mid-phrase.

Ref: Anon. 2014, N R B Q, Tapdancin' Bats LP, [Wikipedia](#)

DeAngelis, John 1984, *The Record Roundup*, n. 34, Jan.-Mar. 1984, p. 17

N R B Q, Bio, [Wikipedia](#)

N R B Q, Tapdancin' Bats LP, [Discogs](#)

N R B Q, Tapdancin' Bats LP, [rhapsody](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

Planer, Lindsay 2014, N R B Q, Tapdancin' Bats LP, [Allmusic](#) (◀AUDIO SAMPLE)

Tamarkin, Jeff 1982, NRNQ & the Whole Wheat Horns, *Goldmine*, n. 68, Jan. 1982, p. 22-23



Al Anderson, Terry Adams, Joey Spampinato, & Tom Ardolino

