

for the night owls

Nocturnal Emissions is a compilation featuring some of our best local talent from the live electronic scene. Nick Wales put the album together and is justifiably proud of the result. He chatted with 3D.

Where did the idea for the Nocturnal Emissions compilation come from? What is the concept behind the album?

Dance music has been around for a while now and Australian producers are just getting better and better. I wanted to put a record together that could showcase emerging Australian talent and give the Aussie underground a bit of a shout. There are SOOOO many compilations out there full of commercial cheese that people think are fantastic. Sure, these comps may have their merits, but so do a lot of deeper, more soulful club tracks that are made here. I wanted to bring some of these tracks together and give the club kids some fresh sounds from their own backyard rather than from the trashy shores of Ibiza.

How would you describe the overall sound of the album? Who do you see as your target audience?

The album is perfect for driving, perfect for warming up your night at home before you head out and a perfect chill record for when you get home. It's got



some breaks, some dnb, some electro and some more quirky downbeat stuff too. The record is for people who are into their hi-fi electronic music and are looking for some upfront local sounds. It is definitely not a weird glitchy art-core compilation; it's a journey

through lots of different local styles around at the moment.

How were the participating artists chosen?

I put the word out to other local artists and labels that I was looking for tracks and they all sent stuff in. Basically a community effort! There are tracks from Melbourne, Perth, Brissie and Sydney. Come on Adelaide! We still love you!

Can you tell us a little about some of the artists who are perhaps most representative of the album overall?

All of the artists on the record are part of the live electronic scene. I think it is great that electronic bands are finally getting their voice, so I wanted to feature some of these locals. Shapeshifter have the first track on the CD which is a beautiful vocal song with a laid back drum and bass feel.

They have relocated to Australia from New Zealand and are

making some noise locally with a really energetic show. The boys from Entropic gave me a remix that MEEM put together for them and that track has a jazzy swing house tip. If people haven't noticed them lately, they've gotta get out a bit more. Soundlab from Perth have a deeper electro track and the Tonemeister track is a 10 minute epic breaks symphony which I just love. Coda

recorded a new track for the comp which has a jazzanova tip with lush string arrangements. There is also a great remix of an amphibian track that Nightswimmer did which has this great trombone line in it.

Were the performers given any sort of brief or were they given free reign?

It was a bit of both really. The album was always about alternative club tracks, tracks that could be danced to. Everyone sent me their tracks that they thought were on the deeper side of dance and a lot of more downbeat tracks too (as silent recordings does release a lot of art/pop and downbeat.) I then went about selecting the tracks that had the best flow and compatibility for the album.

What are some of the highlights/stand out tracks?

I have always loved the Deepchild track. It has a great groove and this keyboard hook that is really simple and hypnotic. Pnau's remix of a Jenny Morris song is a real thumper and would be perfect to drop at the 4am peak hour. The Old Man Time & the Keepers track that ends the album is another absolute killer. It's a rather unique mix of folk and trance featuring the haunting vocals of Old Man Time. I also am really proud of my Alterboy track "Wildfire" which is the first song I sang a full vocal on. It's a song about the world scene at the moment - that feeling that a lot of us get where you really don't know who or what to believe anymore.

Nocturnal Emissions is out now on Silent Recordings. The album launch is at Bar Broadway (opp. UTS) on Saturday 31st May.