

RADON



2006



Some years ago, Steve Mackay, in a profound state of inquisitiveness, found himself staring into the night sky. Finally he imposed one question upon the stars, "Where am I from?" The stars, not known as garrulous entities, saw fit to answer him. "You are from Michigan...and Arcturus."

This record documents highlights of the tremendous body of work accumulated by Steve Mackay in his numerous collaborations during the formative years of the Radon Collective. Though originating in sessions for California radio station, KFJC, the project quickly took on its own life evolving into a live band and establishing Steve as the heart of the collective.

Yet Mackay's musical duels with the ever-mutating international arsenal of Radon have only just started.

The 3 year process of creating Michigan and Arcturus and the 2 subsequent years waiting its release, has manifested in the Steve Mackay Radon Ensemble, a live band whose mission it is to carry on the work began here.

## STEVE MACKAY "MICHIGAN AND ARCTURUS"

w/ members of 36, Koonda Holaa, Liquorball, (r), Ripit, Sikhara, Terminal IF and Nequaquam Vacuum

1. The Moment is Sinking pt. 1
2. Cauchemar de Satie
3. Movable Wall
4. Alien Encounter interlude
5. Face Up on Dash
6. Vacuum interlude
7. 3 oirt rewop
8. Alien Encounter interlude 2
9. Tower of Grawer
10. Los Altos Blues
11. Outro

### Musicians:

Tyler Armstrong (3, 6); Nyko Esterle (9); Kamilsky (2, 4, 8, 11); Marlon Kasberg (1, 7, 10); Sam Lohman (1, 7, 10); Travis McAllister (3, 6); Noah Mickens (3, 6); Scott Nydegger (2, 4, 8); Melvin Occasio (5); Fabrizio Palumbo (5)

### Recording:

1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 recorded live on KFJC, January '02, November '02, July '03  
Los Altos Hills, CA [engineer: Grawer]  
2, 4, 8, 11 recorded by Track Brack mobile studio, March 2001  
San Jose, CA [engineer: Kamilsky]  
3 recorded live at the Jasmine Tree, October 2002 - Portland, OR

All editing and additional mixing at Radon Studio, July-September 2003 - Portland, OR  
Produced by Scott Nydegger for Radon 2001-2003  
Mastered by Kamilsky for Track Brack studio

Design by Paulo Romão Brás  
Cover photograph by Paulo Romão Brás  
Inside photographs by Paulo Gomes (except o)



**STEVE MACKAY**

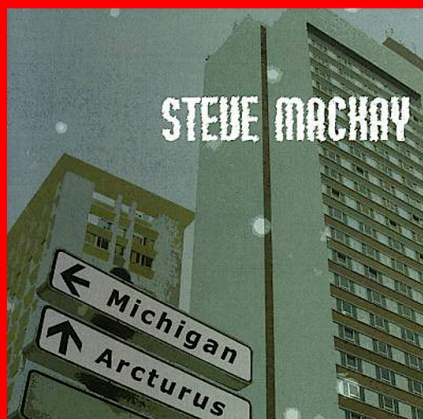


**RADON**









**STEVE MACKAY**

**STEVE MACKAY  
"Michigan and Arcturus" cd**

**Digital reissue from:  
The Radon Collective Archive**



[radoncollectivearchive.bandcamp.com/album/michigan-and-arcturus](https://radoncollectivearchive.bandcamp.com/album/michigan-and-arcturus)

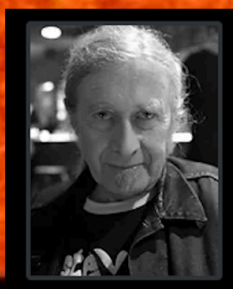
**Steve Mackay's first full solo album was released in 2006 by Radon. It is named after a tale Steve often told of questioning the night sky, "Where am I from?" To which a voice replied, "You are from Michigan, and Arcturus."**

**Soon after the core of the Radon Collective had formed, projects began hitting the West Coast of the US, and when they did, it became tradition for them to collaborate with Steve Mackay. Often these collaborations took place at radio station KFJC on the show of Dominic Trix, and Mackay never met a project he failed to click with. Mr. Trix's alter ego Marlon Kasberg and Sam Lohman aka Japamerican pedal-stomper 36 formed the rhythm section of a power trio. Mackay dueled Kamilsky many times after an initial showdown in the bowels of "The Starcraft". He blasted over the beats of Ripit, and didn't flinch a second as (r) duct taped down the keys of his synth and left the "pit" to go listen to the remainder of the set from the dj booth.**

**This all was clearly demanding the need for this to become a live band, and that did indeed happen, with some of the show captured on the album. The man from Arcturus now had his own band.**

**The Radon Ensemble was born.**

**Michigan and Arcturus was originally released by Radon on cd with cooperation from Base Records and CM Lisboa/Fonoteca Lisboa.**



**Arcturus**

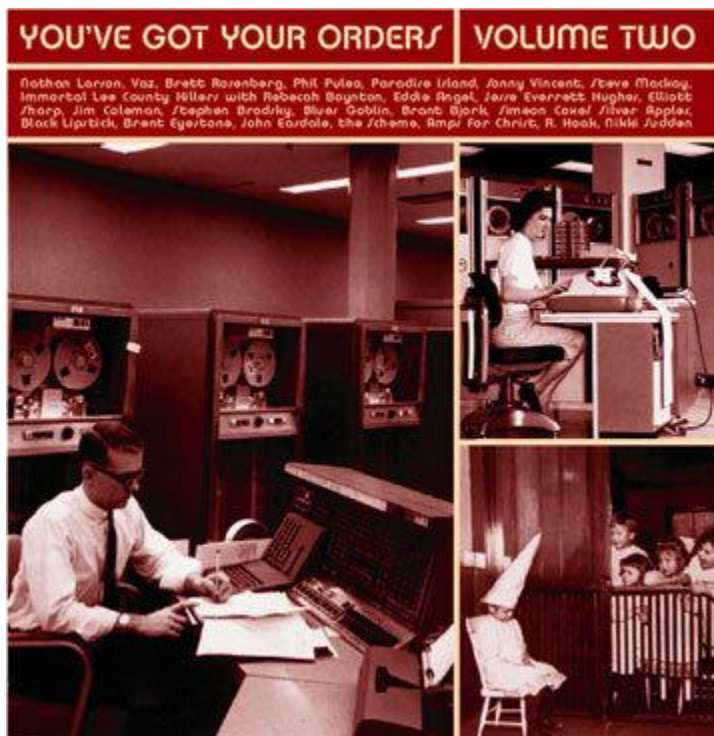


The Radon Collective Archive edition of this album includes two compilation tracks from this period.

First, from Chrome Peeler's "You've got your Orders" series, "You Could almost Smell the nightmares on the pillow." The concept of the comp is that artists are give a song title and then must make a song to fit the title. For the Radon Ensembles contribution, it would be a sort of collage approach, mostly based on a long since lost recording of the first Mackay/Radon solo show in Portland, Oregon.

Also included is Punk Machine which was surely Steve's signature track for a great long while. It originally appeared on the "Hot Pinball Rocks" Compilation, then became a mainstay of the many promo cds Radon would crank out each year.

I think it seems very clear that the pinball machine Steve played with on that song was representative of Steve's sense of freedom, open mindedness and genuine desire for musical exploration. Then, Radon emerged, and this spirit was personified in a much more tangible manner.





# HOT PINBALL ROCK VOL. 1







**STEVE MACKAY - "The Moment is Sinking p2"**