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ARTIST: **The Balustrade Ensemble**
TITLE: **Capsules**

ABOUT THE RELEASE

An otherworldly collection of adroitly-crafted pieces of dense, acoustic guitar pickings, mellotron, orchestron, claviola, cello, piano, pedal steel, and voice (**Wendy Allen**). Delicate and sometimes spooky, **Capsules** is like the lost soundtrack to a Brothers Quay film, a collection of lovely, brittle compositions viewed through a hazy, antique looking-glass.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

The **Balustrade Ensemble** has been described as "an underwater haunted bird sanctuary kaleidoscope", which isn't too far off the mark. Like the aural background to a Victorian science fiction film, world traveler Grant Miller (from industrial-ambient **Mandible Chatter** fame), with the help of **Scott Solter** (**Tarantel**, **Charles Atlas**, **Boxharp**, etc.), has developed an amazing rendition of steampunk-ambient.

REVIEWS

Mark November 5th in your diaries, for this is the day Dynamophone unleash the lavish steampunk sounds of "Capsules" upon an unsuspecting music world. The Balustrade Ensemble's "Tangle in Delirium" is a ghostly passage with tantalizing pedal steel echoes and arctic guitar slides that point to a Victorian influence. "The Drawing Calm", meanwhile, recalls some sinister aspects of Walter/Wendy Carlos' "A Clockwork Orange" score, a film based on an Anthony Burgess novel, that can be defined by inconceivable technological inventions that defy the timeframe. **ANGRYAPE**

Guitarist and composer Grant Miller fronts the ensemble which includes accompanist Scott Solter, singer Wendy Allen, pianist Liam Singer, cellist Rich Vaughan, pedal steel player Ryan Rosenberg, and keyboardist Matt Henry Cunitz. The album's ten deeply ethereal settings conjure Victorian-styled universes where music boxes, rickety keyboards (mellotron, orchestron, claviola, celeste), and strings re-animate the nightmarish current burbling below the surface of the Grimm brothers' folk-tales. Add elements of Jules Verne, H.G. Wells, and The Brothers Quay to the mix and you're in the vicinity of The Balustrade Ensemble's curiosity shop and its cluttered shelves of perfectly-modeled figurines and weathered timepieces. The Balustrade Ensemble believes "listening need not be difficult to be compelling," and its thoroughly engrossing **Capsules** is certainly proof of that. **TEXTURA.ORG**

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- TRACK LISTING
1. Glorianders
 2. The Drowning Calm
 3. Tangle in Delirium
 4. Synnøve Skeie
 5. Incarnadine
 6. Fall Away Into Darkness
 7. A Long Fetch Over
 8. The Museums of Sleep
 9. Crushed Pears
 10. Szól a Zene

LABEL: **Dynamophone**
FORMAT: **CD 4 panel Digipak**
CAT NUMBER: **DO 008**
RELEASE DATE: **Worldwide- May 13, 2008**
WEBSITE: www.dynamophone.com/capsules

