



## Welcome Guest



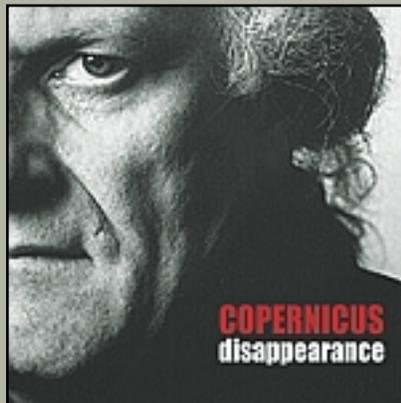
### Featured Reviews

- 👉 Faust: Faust
- 👉 Jam Camp: Black Hills Jam - Preserves Vol. 2
- 👉 Dol Theeta: The Universe Expands
- 👉 Leprous: Tall Poppy Syndrome
- 👉 Hopper, Hugh: Numero D'Vol

### Artist Directory

#### Updates

- 👉 Jaga Jazzist
- 👉 Page, Jimmy & Robert Plant
- 👉 Assemble Head In Sunburst Sound
- 👉 Black Math Horseman
- 👉 Opium Cartel, The



**Member: [ffroyd](#)** ([Profile](#)) ([All Album Reviews by ffroyd](#))

**Date: 7/7/2009**

**Format: CD (Album)**

When putting on a CD and you are faced with the line "After two thousand years of scientific discovery, all of creation can be explained by twelve sub-atomic particles," you best be expecting some deep material. That's exactly what philosopher/poet/performance artist Copernicus delivers on his new release. Featuring an excellent ensemble led by Pierce Turner, the music is not merely a backdrop to some strange poetry but a wonderful and diverse entity in it's own, creating everything from psychedelic to free jazz to blues to classical and much more. This is quite an interesting album to say the least.

I wasn't aware just exactly how polarized his listener base is until I featured this album on Progressive Ears. Some people love his work while others call him a complete quack. I would most likely put myself in the former category but I can see why some might not appreciate the subtle beauty in this work. The main element (sorry for the pun) that I find interesting in his recitations would be the tone of voice that he uses. Mostly he has a angst laden devotion to the subject matter and with a very strong, powerful vocal quality he commands attention.

*Release Date:* 2009

#### Track Listing

- 1) 12 subatomic particles 9:52
- 2) The Quark Gluon Plasma 7:42
- 3) The Blind Zombies 8:54
- 4) Humanity created the illusion of itself. 7:09
- 5) Atomic New Orleans 5:30
- 6) Poor Homo Sapiens 13:57
- 7) Revolution !! 21:05

- 👉 [Web Site](#)
- 👉 [AMG Entry](#)
- 👉 [Samples](#)



Jointly release by Nevermore, inc. and Moonjune records, *disappearance* is quite a spectacular album that traverses many different musical landscapes. Apart from the strong spoken parts but very much a part of the entire picture is the musical accompaniment. While it is portrayed as completely improvisational, some of the music just sounds way too good to have not been rehearsed at least a little. There are a few parts that have almost classical feel but I suppose it could very possibly be spontaneous.

Musical director Pierce Turner plays an excellent Hammond B3, which drones along very coolly throughout the disc. The band also includes four guitarists: Larry Kirwan (from Black 47), Mike Fazio, César Aragundi and Bob Hoffnar (steel guitar) as well as Raimundo Penaforte (violin, acoustic guitar, percussion, vocals), Fred Parcells (trombone), Rob Thomas (violin), Matty Fillou (sax), Marvin Wright (electric bass guitar and additional electric guitar), George Rush (tuba, acoustic and electric bass), Thomas Hamlin (drums & percussion) and Mark Brotter (drums & percussion).

The album seems to gain complexity as it goes on. On my first listen I thought the longer tracks at the end would find the musicians running out of ideas and just vamping for long stretches but this isn't the case at all. The album starts out with a psychedelic soundtrack feel and goes through many different moods through the course. "The Blind Zombies" has a nice string section part that comes out of nowhere. "Humanity created the illusion of itself" has a wild approach that could be described as heavy metal meets free jazz. "Atomic New Orleans" is Dixieland blues from an alien galaxy. The proceedings culminate with the 21 minute track "REVOLUTION !!" which contains some nice eerie synthesizer bits, along with very chaotic contributions from every member.

The prose is deep and scientific and while it may not be to everyone's taste, I found it very captivating. Very often Copernicus



delivers with a very intense disposition, like this is much more than mere artistry. Occasionally there will be background singing going on to assist the melody. On the first listen, I didn't think I would be able to sit through an entire disc of this type of stuff but I was surprised at how much I could get into it.

This is the part of the review where I would say "this kind of stuff isn't for everyone" but I really don't know who I could really recommend the album to. No matter how you interpret it, the subject matter here is very philosophical and the musical provided is quite skillfully done. Give it a chance and you might find it as engaging as I have.

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