

## DK5600 – DISTANZA KATRIAS 5600

Our country, Italy, is rather famous for being an afoot land of more or less “experimental music” albums, and **DK5600**’s **Distanza Katrias 5600** is the upteenth example of these.

Katrias is a 5600 light years distant from Earth planet, more technologically innovative than ours, a sort of ideal model to take as example, and the album, containing twelve songs (plus five bonus tracks in the digital version) can summarily be described as the try of **Paolo** and **Rosanna** to establish a communicative flow between the “aliens” (to be interpreted as the “Others”) and Earth’s inhabitants.

Musically, the flow is rendered as a sequence of more or less heavily noise music-influenced drones that repeat themselves in an infinite loop, while, as far as the lyrics are concerned, Rosanna represents the alien voice that transmits to Earth’s inhabitants knowledge about rather complex and technical concepts regarding Katrias, but the album, in songs such as *Pan demonio*, looks at Katrias as at a model to follow against a corrupted Church that is here heavily condemned. Lyrically, the album is not only a sort of technical schoolbook, but also a chance to think about important topics that we feel close to us.

Distanza Katrias 5600 is an album in which vocals have a rather leading role, an element that distinguishes this work from the neverending crowd of drone music clones that everyday throng the musical landscape. If, according to the song, vocals sounds austere and declamatory as in *Masse estranee* and in *Nanotec* (this last one focused on the description of the particularly innovative technologies belonging to the inhabitants of the planet), in *Essere estensibile dinamico* looks to an evocative and almost surreal approach similar to that of **Mater Suspiria Vision**, and in *Suolo anisotropo* shows a particularly slow disorienting diction, to highlight in a clear way a message coming from a very distant planet.

Overlooking the lyrics, music is kinematic and sci-fi-influenced and can be interpreted as a binary – input / output - sonic communicative flow between distant planets, but also as an OST for a journey aimed at discovering an-“Other” civilization that has lot to offer and to teach. Not only more or less noisy and ambient drone loops: some songs, such as *Tensione di contatto* and the following *Riflessione attiva* introduce, in the first one, a neither too much veiled martial rhythmic, while in the second one a particularly spacey-sounding ambient flow.

The opener *Katrias intro*, as well as the ending song *Bugs crawling out of Katrias* (an homage to the label that has released this record, **Bugs crawling out of people**), are definitely the more kinematic episodes, linked to certain sci-fi movies, but what is more interesting to observe is that, in the songs in which more or less cacophonous loops (or, sometimes, acoustic) run in the background, these musical flows – it’s important to write it, they have been made only by means of hardware machines, not by means of computers – don’t represent only the perfect OST by means of which to tell a sci-fi story, but the communication itself between the planets, that runs parallel to the vocal flow transmitted: let’s think about the interferences listenable in a song as *Tensione di controllo*: the audio signal transmitted could be interpreted as a pack of data transmitted from a sender to a receiver. Anyway, Katrias isn’t only an example from which to learn something, but also a threat, as understandable, even without the use of lyrics, in an emblematic song title as *Katrias attacks*.

Concluding, Distanza Katrias 5600 is an interesting experimental experiment that will raise the attention of more than one listener, and that can ideally be inserted in the same shelf of not easily categorizable albums, but that will raise the attention of the more curious and open-minded music passionates to whatever form of breaking of the musical genres rules. Not easy lyrics make maybe the album message not so easy to be understood, but undoubtedly it's interesting to discover important details listening after listening. Katrias, more than representing the planet in itself, is a metaphor of the Other, that Other that we fear and that, at the same time, fascinates us.

Score: 7

Label: Bugs crawling out of people

Author: Alessandro "Flux" Violante

Website: <http://fluxproject.altervista.org/dk5600-distanza-katrias-5600>