

STARS AND THE UNDERGROUND



Booking: duskaotearoa@gmail.com

STARS AND THE UNDERGROUND

–BIO



Stars and the Underground is the the musical project of Auckland, New Zealand based singer songwriter John Mason. (ex Winterland circa 1999)

Our name suggests a duality between musical textures. Usual motifs include ethereal and dark musical tones. If you walked into a music store people might file us alongside other artists and styles but how do you categorise yourself?

If you must then I would prefer it to read something like Goth Adjacent, Post Punk, Dark Wave and Dark Synthwave and Shoegaze.

But if you were to ignore us due to such categorisation you'd be doing yourself and us a disservice.

The honest truth is our songs encourage you to look at the darkest of things and find beauty and peace and freedom of expression within them. They compel the listener to emerge with a greater sense of purpose and understanding of the events they communicate something about.

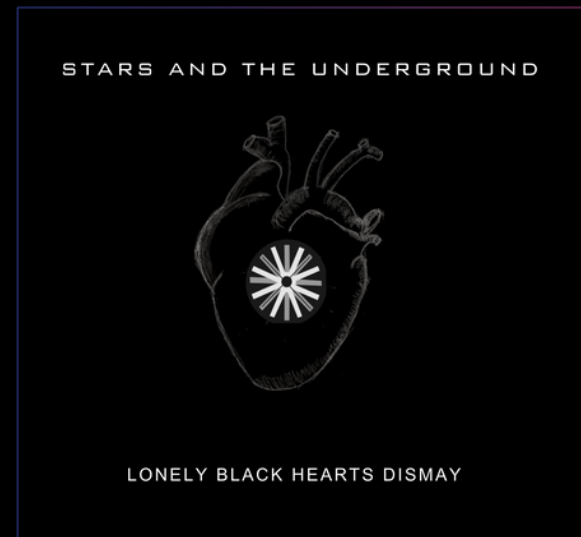
New Zealand has a small loyal following of such music under darker umbrellas, so these days we push ourselves out to a wider international audience getting received well with international airplay and compilation appearances and also touring.

But still with each new release we hope to connect and attract new people to our fanbase no matter where they are from and what music categorizations they gravitate to.

2024 marks a rebirth of sorts as we have changed line ups and have a new album called 'Guardians of the Night' in the wings, after almost two years away the first live shows are being booked.

STARS AND THE UNDERGROUND

-RELEASES



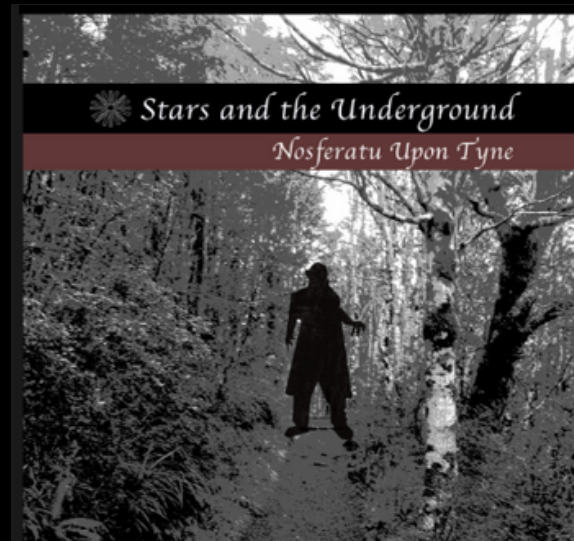
Lonely Black Hearts (Single) - 2024

Words and Music : John Mason

Performed By : John Mason (Vocals, Guitars, Keyboards, Bass), John McDermott (Drums)

Recorded and Mixed and Mastered By : John McDermott at Arch Hill Studios

From the new album "Guardians of the Night"



Nosferatu Upon Tyne (Single) - 2020

Words and Music : John Mason, Cat Veen, Ario Manufui, Sean O'Kane Connolly

Performed By : John Mason, Cat Veen, Ario Manufui, Sean O'Kane Connolly, John McDermott

Recorded and Mixed : John McDermott at Arch Hill Studios

Mastered By : Simon Polinski @ Hesius Dome, Melbourne



Evolution Circle (EP) - 2019

Words and Music : John Mason and Sean O'Kane Connolly

Performed By : John Mason and Sean O'Kane Connolly

Recorded and Mixed and Mastered By : Darryn Harkness at the Tone Exchange

NZ and Au Tour Sampler

Stars and the Underground

29/08/2022	w/ After The Flesh	Wine Cellar, Auckland ,NZ
22/01/2022	Gathering Shadows	Valhalla, Wellington, NZ
31/07/2021	w/ Lichtbeuger, Creassault	Thirsty Dog, Auckland, NZ
20/12/2020	Concierto Solidario, Live Stream	Radio Subte Lima Sur(Peru)
19/09/2020	Dark Shadows	Nirvara Lounge, Hamilton, NZ
19/11/2019	Shadowplay	Moon 1, Wellington, NZ
17/08/2019	Freaking the Dog	Thirsty Dog, Auckland, NZ
06/07/2019	w/ Swallow the Rat, Mothra, Robots in Love	Whammy Bar Auckland, NZ
08/06/2019	w/ Sounds Like Winter, Lichtbeuger	The Townie, Sydney, Australia
09/06/2019	w/ Robots In Love, Lichtbeuger	The Tote, Melbourne, Australia
01/06/2019	w/ Lichtbeuger	The Thirsty Dog, Auckland, NZ
27/01/2019	w/ Drab Majesty	Whammy Backroom, Auckland, NZ
08/12/2018	w/ Permanence	Thirsty Dog Auckland, NZ
28/08/2018	w/ Lichtbeuger, PTSD	Ding Dong Lounge, Auckland, NZ
05/02/2017	w/ Ikon, Sounds Like Winter, Disjectamembra	Whammy Bar, Auckland, NZ

-SHOWS

STARS AND THE UNDERGROUND

–PRESS & SOCIAL

“Moody, atmospheric textured landscapes of sound which wash out like smooth rolling waves...”

Rev Orange Peel, 13thfloor.co.nz

“Moving through the set that combined facets of goth, shoe gaze and dark electronic music with vocals from Mason intermingly added in just the right places Stars and the Underground proved itself to be a worthy live act...”

Sarah Kidd Ambient Light Blog

“Stars and the Underground are a nice bit of post punk...”

Darryn Baser music.net.nz

<https://www.satu.co.nz>

<https://www.facebook.com/starsandtheunderground>

<https://www.instagram.com/starsandtheunderground>

<https://starsandtheunderground.bandcamp.com>

<https://www.youtube.com/@starsandtheunderground8183>

<https://twitter.com/starsandtheund1>