

= Silent Alarm Remixed =

Silent Alarm Remixed is the remix album to Silent Alarm , the debut album by British indie rock band Bloc Party . It was released on 29 August 2005 in the British Isles on Wichita Recordings , the band 's primary label , and on 13 September 2005 in the United States through Vice Records to coincide with Bloc Party 's worldwide touring schedule . The record peaked at number 54 on the UK Albums Chart . In the US , it achieved a peak of number four on the Billboard Top Electronic Albums .

Bloc Party commissioned Silent Alarm Remixed to show that remixes and dance music were relevant to the band and to the rock landscape at large . The band members gave each of the original tracks to a number of musicians from different genres ; Ladytron , Four Tet , and Nick Zinner were amongst those who reworked the songs . Critics often considered the record as showcasing the potential high quality of remix albums , although some reviewers treated it as disjunct and a poor marketing decision .

= = Origins and release = =

Bloc Party 's critically acclaimed debut album Silent Alarm charted in 18 countries on four continents by the end of April 2005 . The Japanese edition included three bonus songs which later appeared on Silent Alarm Remixed : " So Here We Are (Four Tet Remix) " , " Plans (Mogwai Remix) " , and " Pioneers (M83 Remix) " . The US double LP version contained another two tracks which later formed part of the track list : " Positive Tension (Jason Clark Remix) " and " Price of Gas (Automato Remix) " . During the month of May , other musical acts were asked to remix the rest of the songs from the band 's work . Frontman Kele Okereke has stated that the decision was taken because the band members wanted to show that dance music was significant to them as a rock quartet .

Fellow Vice Records band Death from Above 1979 were the first act to be asked and covered " Luno " as a B @-@ side to their June 2005 single " Black History Month " . Engineers reworked " Blue Light " after supporting Bloc Party at several concerts during the first half of 2005 . Before their fame , Okereke and lead guitarist Russell Lissack were regular visitors to Erol Alkan 's Trash club in London ; the early contact with the band led Alkan to rework their first single " She 's Hearing Voices " . The band had also performed at Dave Pianka 's Philadelphia club and the gig inspired the owner to remix " This Modern Love " with Adam Sparkle into something more suited to a disco . Ladytron were early fans of the band and invited the quartet for a performance at their Liverpool club before reworking " Like Eating Glass " for the release .

Whitey and Yeah Yeah Yeahs ' Nick Zinner were the only acts to be hired based on their respective musical credentials . Bloc Party spent the whole of August 2005 promoting Silent Alarm Remixed at several European festivals . The record was released on 29 August following the band 's headlining slots at the Reading and Leeds Festivals on 26 ? 28 August . The final track list included the Bloc Party EP edit of " Banquet " by Silent Alarm producer Paul Epworth . The cover art is a negative of the bare winter landscape by freelance photographer Ness Sherry used on Silent Alarm .

= = Critical reception = =

AllMusic 's Heather Phares described the album as more consistent than most remix collections and noted that it functions well as a record in its own right . Priya Elan of NME explained that " the results are pretty much all quality " and that some of the tracks are better than the original songs on Silent Alarm . Rockfeedback 's Thomas Hannan stated , " It 's all very clever , but the most intelligent thing about it is that it makes you think about the original in a completely altered way . " Pitchfork Media 's Nitsuh Adebé was impressed with the album and indicated that it is " surprisingly good , and surprisingly often " .

Christian Hoard of Rolling Stone was less receptive and commented that the tracks are flawed in conception , because Bloc Party is not a disco @-@ oriented band despite its propulsive rhythm

section . Nick Southall of Stylus suggested that the inherent problem with record is that the vocals have been removed from the " sympathetic stereo @-@ treatment and layering " of Silent Alarm . Liam Colle of PopMatters was not impressed by Silent Alarm Remixed and commented that " the new tricks aren 't quite charming , or very tricky for that matter " , because the album " reeks of a marketing brainstorm " . Drowned in Sound 's Mike Diver concluded that the disparate nature of the record 's contributors denies it the coherency of the original .

= = Composition = =

Ladytron 's mix of " Like Eating Glass " replaces the lead and rhythm guitars with looped synthesisers and adds a large amount of reverberation to the vocals ; the resulting effect was described by Pitchfork Media 's Nitsuh Adebe as " walking out of your apartment and thinking you can hear Bloc Party playing a festival six blocks over " . Whitey reworked " Helicopter " in a minimalist fashion and introduced wolf howls and a xylophone staccato to the song . The musician 's effects gave the track a rawer sound than the original version according to Heather Phares of Allmusic . " Positive Tension " was remixed by Jason Clark of art punk band Pretty Girls Make Graves under the pseudonym " Blackbox " . The song includes elements of oldschool jungle . The Paul Epworth edit of single " Banquet " , under his " Phones " moniker , is more sparse than the original and is closer to dance music than indie rock .

Engineers ' " Blue Light " was dubbed the ' Anti @-@ Gravity ' mix and resulted in an ambient track which Nick Southall of Stylus considered as good as Bloc Party 's version . Erol Alkan 's reworking of debut single " She 's Hearing Voices " is a dub version over twice the length of the blueprint . The song accentuates the punk funk elements in Bloc Party 's work . Alkan has noted that his priority was to get more out of the track 's groove and melody since " the original is so fast it kind of flies by without you being able to recognise [its] beauty " . Dave Pianka and Adam Sparkle 's work on " This Modern Love " resulted in a musical construction akin to 1980s new wave bands Blondie and The Cure . M83 used several studio effects to create an ambient version of single " Pioneers " by adding strings and synthesisers to the original composition . Automato 's remix of " Price of Gas " infuses Bloc Party 's blueprint with electronica elements .

Solo act Kieran Hebden , under his Four Tet alias , provided the remix for " So Here We Are " and created a folktronica version of the original , reminiscent of the music once produced by Windham Hill Records according to Christian Hoard of Rolling Stone . Death From Above 1979 's version of " Luno " is the only re @-@ recording on Silent Alarm Remixed and is wholly in the dance @-@ punk genre . Bloc Party drummer Matt Tong has stated , " It 's a really aggressive take on our music . " Mogwai 's mix of " Plans " adds an extensive use of echo to the original song , while Nick Zinner 's remix of " Compliments " created in Shibuya , Tokyo accentuates Okereke 's whispers to create vocal effects similar to those of The Cure 's Robert Smith according to Adebe .

= = Track listing = =

All songs originally written and composed by Bloc Party and remixed by each credited artist .

= = Bonus tracks = =

" Banquet " (Cornelius Remix) ? 10 : 47 (there is also a 4 : 37 version) ? track 14 on the Japanese edition

" Tulips " (Minotaur Shock Remix) ? 5 : 19 ? hidden track begins at 5 : 21 of the last song on the UK and US editions and at 5 : 28 of the last song on the Japanese edition .

= = Release history = =

= = Chart positions = =

