

LABEL COPY – GRAMMY SUBMISSION

Category: ***BEST CONTEMPORARY
INSTRUMENTAL ALBUM***

Dichotomy

Original Work by ***Sherif Dahroug***



ALBUM INFORMATION

Title of Composition: Dichotomy

Subtitle: A Tone Poem of Five Metamorphoses for Piano

Total Duration: 39:05

Track Listing:

1. **Exordium: Horizon of the Two Sycamores**

ISRC: QZTBE2506893

Duration: 9:03

2. **Limen: Nile | Eridanus**

ISRC: QZTBE2506894

Duration: 7:58

3. **Elevatio: Nymphaea | Papyrus**

ISRC: QZTBE2506895

Duration: 8:00

4. **Coronatio: Polaris | Orion**

ISRC: QZTBE2506896

Duration: 10:55

5. **Epilogue: The Breath of Atum**

ISRC: QZTBE2506897

Duration: 3:08

Composer: Sherif Dahroug

Performer: Sherif Dahroug

Producer: Sherif Dahroug

Publisher: Sherif Dahroug (self-published)

Label: Lyre de Mercure

UPC: 199515343914

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Album Recording Location: Lyre de Mercure Studio – Montmartre, Paris 75018, France

Recording Dates: April - May–June 2025

Engineering, Mixing & Mastering: Sherif Dahroug

Album Artwork: Riham ElGamal

Engineering Website Advisor: Bassem Dahroug

Legal and Financial Advisor: Sam Dahroug



VINYL EDITION

Catalog: ElasticStage

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LINER NOTES - DICHOTOMY

A Tone Poem of Five Metamorphoses for Piano

Total Duration: 39:05

DICHOTOMY is conceived as a **tone ritual** — a vast **inner temple of sound** where the piano becomes both an instrument and an oracle. Within this resonant space unfolds a **contemporary journey in sound and form** on one of the most enduring philosophical principles of ancient Egypt: **duality**. Not as conflict, but as **complementarity** — the interplay between opposites that gives rise to creation, movement, and meaning.

Structured as a **cycle of five metamorphoses**, this original work bridges **contemporary composition** and **symbolic ritual**, drawing the listener into an immersive journey. Its harmonic language is shaped by **transcultural bimodality** and **cyclic polytonality**, where tonal tradition is not abandoned but reimagined — layered, deconstructed, and reborn.

Although the term *tone poem* traditionally refers to a single-movement orchestral work, *DICHOTOMY* reinvents the genre through the prism of the **solo piano**. Here, the piano serves as a living architecture — where tone, thought, and myth unfold in a unified contemporary language. Each movement unfolds as a sonic invocation, where ancient symbols find new voice through a contemporary, deeply personal lens.

From the **threshold of the Two Sycamores**, symbolizing the passage into time, the listener is carried across **twin rivers**— the earthly **Nile** and the celestial **Eridanus** — echoing mirrored worlds above and below. The path ascends through **Nymphaea** and **Papyrus**, emblems of elevation and the dual lands of Egypt, before reaching **Coronatio** — a celestial rite beneath **Polaris** and **Orion**, invoking the cosmic balance of **Seth and Osiris**. The final movement, *The Breath of Atum*, returns us to the source — to the silence from which the first breath of creation emerged.

More than a set of compositions, *DICHOTOMY* is a ritual of sound — a metamorphic passage through classical lineage and forward-looking innovation. Through this music, the listener may recognize something both **ancient and modern, intimate and universal**

— a sonic architecture in which the dissonant parts of the self are not resolved, but **embraced**, honored, and woven into a greater whole.

To explore more about the album:

sherifdahroug.github.io/posts/Music/albums/2025-07-07-dichotomy.html

