

FUTUREX



RETURN OF THE NINJA

- 01 LAST NINJA ~ WASTELANDS ————— BEN DAGLISH
02 LAST NINJA ~ MEDLEY ————— BEN DAGLISH, ANTHONY LEES
WASTELANDS LOADER
PALACE LOADER
INNER SANCTUM
- 03 LAST NINJA 2 ~ CENTRAL PARK ————— MATT GRAY
04 LAST NINJA 2 ~ THE STREETS ————— MATT GRAY
05 LAST NINJA 2 ~ BASEMENT LOADER ————— MATT GRAY
06 LAST NINJA 2 ~ THE MANSION ————— MATT GRAY
07 LAST NINJA 3 ~ INTRO ————— REYH OUWEHAND
08 LAST NINJA 3 ~ WATER ————— REYH OUWEHAND
09 LAST NINJA 3 ~ END ————— REYH OUWEHAND
10 LAST NINJA TRILOGY ~ MEDLEY ————— DAGLISH, GRAY, OUWEHAND
LN1 ~ WILDERNESS
LN2 ~ SEWERS LOADER
LN2 ~ CENTRAL PARK LOADER
LN2 ~ MOUNTAIN HIDEWAY
LN3 ~ EARTH
LN2 ~ OFFICE LOADER
LN1 ~ WASTELANDS
LN3 ~ INTRO

ADDITIONAL MUSIC BY ALESSIO PERARDI

RECORDED, MIXED AND MASTERED BY
ALESSIO PERARDI AT RESTAURANT AT THE END OF THE UNIVERSE STUDIO

THIS ALBUM IS FREE... IF YOU PAID FOR IT, YOU'VE BEEN CHEATED!

RETURN OF THE NINJA ~ NOTES:

Everybody loves Last Ninja trilogy...

everybody remembers it: Last Ninja 2 was the best selling game ever on C64 and it really left a mark on pop culture. Fantastic graphics, innovative fighting system, clever puzzles (sometimes not so clever actually...) were the driving force of those games, but one thing made them real classics: music!

LN1 oriental atmosphere of Ben Daglish and Anthony Lees soundtrack, rocking bass lines by Matt Gray in LN2 and Reyn Ouwehand technical perfection on LN3 and Ninja Remix, all conjured to create an immersive experience for the gamer that is still somehow unsurpassed.

I started to caress the idea of making a Last Ninja tribute album a lot of time ago...

most of the tracks on this album were created between the end of XXth century an the first years of the new one, so it's 10 years old stuff, to say the least.

Having spent most of my musical career, playing in power metal band Airborn, I had to keep my passion for retrogame music as a hobby, until last year I published a collection of my own tracker compositions under the monicker Future-X. Many people enjoyed the album, especially because of the 64/Amiga vibe of the tunes. This reminded me, I had a full collection of Last Ninja tracks shelved somewhere. They just needed a little dust off and a good mastering.

The tracks were recorded with Fast Tracker 2, using vintage 8 bit samples of the Amiga days, some were changed into more modern sounds later, but I felt those bad looping, noisy sounds added authenticity to the whole project and, in the end, I decided to leave most of them untouched.

Kind of a double retro gaming value... sort of...

I also decided to give the album away for free, I don't feel right making money using other people music, especially because it would have been hard for them to recollect royalties.

And then who wants to pay money for a cranky sounding remake of old (although mythical) chip tunes?

Anyway, hope you enjoy the album!

Check out Future-X "Machines, The Saint & I" on CD Baby & iTunes...

Future-X links:

<http://www.myspace.com/futurexaudio>

<http://www.youtube.com/futurexvideo>

LAST NINJA ~ WASTELANDS

The track that started it all, pure Daglish awesomeness!

LAST NINJA ~ MEDLEY

Originally I intended to be a remake of wastelands loader alone, I turned it into a medley when I noticed there were no Anthony Lees tracks on the album!

His work is often and criminally overlooked in Last Ninja history...

LAST NINJA 2 ~ CENTRAL PARK

I actually played LN2 before LN1 and Matt Gray work is so good, it's probably the best music ever done on good old SID chip.

LAST NINJA 2 ~ THE STREETS

I'm sorry for this crazy funky/jazz/electronica extravaganza, I thought it was fun!

LAST NINJA 2 ~ BASEMENT LOADER

Another seriously rocking tune from Mr Gray!

LAST NINJA 2 ~ THE MANSION

Ah, the memories! You took that misterious helicopter and next stage opened with this killer track!

Wastelands solo reprise is also a great touch!

LAST NINJA 3 ~ INTRO

A great soundtrack for the most cinematic moment in C64 history... remember?

Music started when the title "Music... Reyn Ouwehand" appeared... so cool!!!

LAST NINJA 3 ~ WATER

Another classic Ouwehand tune... it's hard to justify the crazy double bass power metal interlude I put in the middle (there are some throughout the album), well that's my job!

LAST NINJA 3 ~ END

This is so epic! It reminds a little the "infamous" Sakamoto rip-off from Ninja Remix, but it's a lot better.

LAST NINJA TRILOGY ~ MEDLEY

Back in the day, there were a lot of Ninja tunes I wanted to remake for this album, but had to be scrapped.

I recycled most of them on this track, there is also some original music I composed to link the whole stuff.