

Minidisc Sanctuary

A sense of “*Comfortable Nostalgia*” is contained within.

Track 1 - Zankoko Na Tenshi no These - Yoko Takahashi

The Neon Genesis Evangelion theme tune - it's wonderfully upbeat and conjures up the imagery of the opening sequence. It's an old Anime now, but the quality still shines through.

Track 2 - Space Samba (Disco Volador Theme) - The Orielles

This sounds like an epic 70s disco tune, brought bang up to date! I love it and it gets across the fun aspect brilliantly. Definitely the best song on the Mancunian's album.

Track 3 - Brain Surgeon - Mitchell and Webb

It's not easy finding comedy that works across the world for any given target, but not only does this hit the spot, but it should give a major clue to who I am.

Track 4 - Crushing - Ex:Re

Mournful and yet happy, in the same song. Reminds me a bit of Portishead, with the female vocal and stripped down sounds.

Track 5 - Crosses - José González

Minidisc doesn't contain accented characters, so he'll have to cope with being Jose. This song came from his debut album, which also featured Heartbeats - a cover of The Knife song.

Track 6 - Cómo me Quieres - Khurangbin

This track is the opening song on their 2018 album “Con Todo El Mundo” - a live version of this was featured on YouTube, which I really enjoyed, and got stuck on listening to the album.

Track 7 - Kiara - Bonobo

Bonobo and Quantic have been staples on my listening tracks since back when I first had a minidisc. This is from 2010's Black Sands, which is worth a listen.

Track 8 - Ottolenghi - Loyle Carner

There's a lot of Rap out there whose lyrics leave me cold, but this is a warming tale of a train journey, where a child mistakenly thinks the book Loyle is reading is the Bible, but it's actually “Jerusalem”, a cookery book by Yottam Ottolenghi.

Track 9 - Black Horse and the Cherry Tree - KT Tunstall

This was the first time I'd seen an artist use a Loop Station to play and sample all the elements of a track by themselves, to form the whole tune, live. If you've not watched it, go and see the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FGT0A2Hz-uk>

Track 10 - Life - Ferris Bueller

I'd heard this sample before watching the film - it's a classic truism. The Tune? Links by Chameleon which is a great Drum and Bass tune.

Track 11 - New Religion - Gryff

Gryff is on the Minidisc Wiki, and this was one of the best tunes on his 2020 Minidisc Day release. I only bought it this year though, when he re-released it on Minidisc for a second go.

Track 12 - Rush Hour - Joyrider

Joyrider did a 90s cover of the 80s June Wiedlin tune - covers are a difficult thing to pull off because you're often too busy thinking of the original, but I feel like this one brings enough difference that you're not tied to it.

Track 13 - Stadler & Waldorf - It's either the show...

Who doesn't love a bit of The Muppets in their life?

Track 14 - Hounds of Love - The Futureheads

My covers section continues - Kate Bush wrote some great tunes, but The Futureheads nail this cover, and lands a body blow to svelte Kate's frame. Round 1 to the Rock Cover!

Track 15 - Wonderwall - Paul Anka

I'm not sure what the Mancunian rockers would have made of this cover, but Paul Anka's smooth silky style counters Oasis' rock very well. More evidence that good covers do something different instead of slavishly repeating what came before.

Track 16 - Wuthering Heights - China Drum

"Kate Bush *again*?" I hear you cry, but bear with me dear listener! This is the knock out blow from practically unknown English punk rockers "China Drum". Originally, they included this only as a hidden track nearly half an hour after the final tune on the album "Goosefair"; in the end they conceded to pressure and included it as a B side on an obscure single. Well worth it.

Track 17 - The Super Mario Brothers Theme - John Williams & The Boston Pops

The last of our Covers - after the knock-out that came before, this is more gentle and brings you back to earth gently. John Williams lends his super powers to a clever re-think on the NES original.

Track 18 - Computer - Johnny Mnemonic

You might remember that our lead character used a minidisc without its cover like a CD player in the film. Very tenuous link, right? Might give you a clue as to what I do for a job, though.

Track 19 - Diplodocus - Nosia

True fact - I had this playing at my wedding! It got a LOT of people up and dancing, as it's an utter beast of tune. You'll find yourself going "Vvvuuuubbb-Vvvub" soon enough, if you aren't already!

Track 20 - Ebenezer Goode (Meat Beat Manifesto Instrumental) - The Shamen

Nearly 30 years old now (1992 is not 20 years ago, remember), and it's still one of the best Rave tracks there has ever been. In my mind, this is the best remix that has ever existed, and doesn't sound dated at all.

Track 21 - Archangel - Burial

Burial didn't invent Dubstep, but he did re-invent how it could be made. According to him, he manually cuts and pastes bits of the track together, not using a sequencer as every other electronic music maker does - That's how he gets the very organic feeling to the beats, that seem to skitter along the tune rather than rigidly defining it.

Track 22 - I've Seen Things - Roy Batty

Arguably one of the defining monologues of the big 80s films - hard to believe this was made in 1982, nearly 40 years ago now. Rutger Hauer was said to have re-written this himself, and can count the original author of Blade Runner's genesis - "Do androids dream of electric sheep?" - Phillip K Dick amongst fans of the work done.

Track 23 - Blade Runner (End Credits) - Vangelis

So many things went wrong with Blade Runner, but one thing that was right was Vangelis' soundtrack - he played with the space between beats beautifully, and the theme tune is a gorgeous demonstration of what the future could hold. This was used at the End Credits, and so it is here - last tune!

Track 24 - Bye! - Men in Tights

I needed a way to finish, and let's face it - someone saying Goodbye in various different languages is a very appropriate thing for the Worldwide nature of the Minidisc Wiki Secret Santa! I hope you've enjoyed this journey that I've taken you on - my aim was to make a disc that you, the listener, would come back to more than once. Also - let the group know if you've solved the several clues I've left in here to guess who prepared this for you.