

# BLACK MOLD

~~SNOW BLINDNESS IS CRYSTAL ANTZ~~

Both CD and album come with a download code to get an entire bonus album of glitchy oddities!



## Black Mold : *Snow Blindness is Crystal Antz*

- 1 Metal Spider Webs
- 2 Dr. Snouth
- 3 Uke Puke
- 4 Toxic lake
- 5 Tetra pack heads
- 6 Rotten Walls
- 7 Memes
- 8 Fuck Ebay
- 9 Wet ferns
- 10 Smoking rat shit
- 11 Barn swallow vs sk-1
- 12 Gummed Desk
- 13 Virtual Prison
- 14 No Dream Nation
- 15 Pristine Boobles
- 16 Snow Blindness is Crystal Antz
- 17 Left behind by the digital ships
- 18 Swimming to food
- 19 Finally someone invented a teleporter!

RELEASE DATE : August 11 2009  
FORMAT : CD / Double LP / digital  
GENRE : Electronic / Indie  
CATALOGUE NUMBER: FLCR019



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LP



CD

A warped and mutated blend of the futuristic and the organic, *Snow Blindness is Crystal Antz* is the debut album from Black Mold – the electronic alter-ego of songwriter Chad VanGalen. With Black Mold, VanGalen is allowed the freedom to explore the wildest tangents of his instrumental work, using a broad palette of glitches and noise married with the warm hues of acoustic instruments. Guided by a free-associative approach to songwriting, the songs show the full-blown instrumental side that VanGalen hinted at sparingly on his own albums.

The product of several years of late-night instrumental experimentation, mainly on vintage analogue and hand-built modular synths, *Snow Blindness...* is at times glitchy and unpredictable while at other times Teutonic and sparse. The album opens with a baffling and beautiful composition, "Metal Spider Web #2", a lattice of cello and clarinet complemented by shifting electronic pulses. In the dreamlike and metamorphic title track, subtle oscillations and erratic surges build before settling into a simple layering of acoustic guitars and drums. Elsewhere, other songs utilize 8-bit beats & warped synthesis to create multi-layered rhythmic patterns. *Snow Blindness...* comes from a basement stacked to the ceiling with broken and discarded devices and poorly wired technology fused with organic instruments, all jury-rigged to somehow work together in sequence – and often acting with no masters.

Fans of VanGalen may draw immediate parallels between Black Mold and the early electronic groundwork of "J.C.'s Head on the Cross" (*Infiniheart*, 2005), the enigmatic synthesizer lines of "Red Hot Drops" (*Skelliconnection*, 2007) or the quasi-literate dance styling of "TMNT Mask" (*Soft Airplane*, 2008). While many songs embody the spirit of the more accessible pop-based leanings of VanGalen's solo work, the debut album from Black Mold is the product of an artist bent on creating a personal soundscape.

Sometimes re-working the tradition of modular synthesizer pioneers such as Wendy Carlos, Tomita or Jarre, at other times cutting a swath through contemporary sample-based territory, the album is strewn with musique concrete pastiches, creative use of circuit bending and manipulation, and an intuitive and intelligent understanding of rhythmic minimalism. *Snow Blindness is Crystal Antz* will be driving late-night parties as well as providing the hung-over soundtrack to the aftermath.

On double brown vinyl in an embossed sleeve!



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