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Album Reviews

★ TRANCE MISSION

Meanwhile . . .

PRODUCER: Simon Tassano
City Of Tribes 005

Trance Mission joins the ranks of Jon Hassell, Steve Roach, and Robert Rich in exploring a primal, techno-tribal music. Stephen Kent's didgeridoo is a signature sound of the San Francisco group, but it's only part of a hallucinatory swirl of ancestral grooves mixed in modern atmospheres. Kenneth Newby's Asian wind instruments, John Loose's multi-lingual percussion, and the spinning improvisations of clarinetist Beth Custer converge in incantatory soundscapes, with a lyricism that's uncommon for the genre. Even a pair of misplaced spoken-word segments can't mar this seductive world-fusion journey.