

Notes

Some of these songs have been in the composition stage for over a year. In addition to simply determining the chordal progressions and, for me, this means accompanying pluralities of melodic interpretations, I also had to develop the guitar skills to play parts of these pieces which were very hard for me. I do not consider myself a musician but more of a composer and arranger. For me composing and arranging is a perfect combination of artistic expression and audio engineering. I create and construct all the pieces in my home studio. For many years I used Pro Tools for the compositions and Kurzweil sound modules for the instrumentation and sounds. Recently, I started using Logic Pro on a Mac Studio because I like Atmos, surround sound, composition and delivery better than Pro Tools. I also employ acoustic and electric guitars, midi controllers for guitar, keyboard and drums. Nowadays with my orchestral compositions I use my Kurzweil keyboard more. In addition, at times, I simply manually enter that manual midi data which then gets played through the sound modules. All these songs are a work of love as no professional musician or recording studio would ever take the time to produce these compositions if they wanted to stay in business. All my work is dedicated to my dear son and daughter. I am so thankful my daughter has decided that life is a journey she wants to share and continue with me. My son, at the age of 20 years old, decided, to my ultimate sorrow, to leave this experience we know as life. I have written about him on my blog. My children are always near and dear to the most sacred and emotional instincts in me. As such they are always in my music, my tears, joys and philosophical underpinnings which teach me that the alterity of the other is never something that can be summed up or entirely consumed by thought. They teach me wonder and beauty is not mine in any way and I am privileged for this life to face this infinity which faces me as child, wife, friend and sojourner.

For each song on the Alterity page, I will provide a .mp3 and .wav file for the completed song as they are finished. I also include the original, guitar only, compositions as .mp3s which represent the end of my main composition work and the beginning of the production process. The mp3s are fast streaming but the wav files have much more audio fidelity. I recommend downloading the wav files if you have a system capable of playing them as streaming larger wav files can be prone to lengthy delays and pauses in the progression of the song.

Notes on finished songs:

Internigma

Internigma is a word I made up.

"Inter"

- **Origin:** "Inter" is a Latin word that means *between, among, or together*. It functions as a prefix in many English words, like *interaction* (acting between people) or *interstellar* (between the stars).
- **Root Usage:** In Latin, *inter* signified connection or relation, often referring to being in a shared space or context.

"Enigma"

- **Origin:** "Enigma" comes from the Greek word *ainigma* (αἴνιγμα), which means *riddle* or *mystery*. It's derived from the verb *ainissesthai* (αἰνίσσασθαι), which means *to speak in riddles*.
- **Symbolism:** Historically, "enigma" conveys the idea of something difficult to understand or solve, adding layers of intrigue or complexity.

Here is what my buddy chat had to say about it:

By combining these roots, your word "Internigma" evokes a sense of "a mystery or riddle that exists between or among things."

🎵 Dive into the Soundscape: Internigma 🎵

Experience the awe-inspiring orchestration of *Internigma*, a 21-minute and 37-second immersive journey into sound, philosophy, and quantum wonder. Created using Logic Pro and delivered in Dolby Atmos, this piece draws inspiration from the intricate themes of the 940-page book *Quanta, Alterity, and Love*—available on Amazon—which delves deep into quantum physics, philosophy, and the work of Emmanuel Levinas.

Starting from the 20th century, *Quanta, Alterity, and Love* explores the confluence of quantum physics and philosophy, tracing their shared roots in ancient intuitions of chaos. It unravels how quantum findings challenge not just technology but our day-to-day commonsense, while Emmanuel Levinas introduces a radical responsibility to the "other" that deeply resonates with these groundbreaking discoveries. Within this philosophical and scientific framework, *Internigma* emerges as a sonic interpretation, weaving together the mysteries of quantum reality and human interconnectedness.

This isn't just music—it's a philosophical expedition, an auditory reflection of civilization's journey to the precipice of the unknown. The spatial dynamics and orchestration embody the riddle of "alterity" (otherness) and the harmonies of interconnected chaos.

Close your eyes, and let *Internigma* transport you into a universe of unfathomable depth, where sound is both a mystery and a revelation. ✨

There are some problems at times streaming some of these files from my blog provider so I put the music video on YouTube here: [Internigma \(YouTube\)](#). The downloads work fine.

[Internigma \(Stereo Movie\)](#) This is a .mp4 movie. It is suited for streaming over the internet.

[Internigma \(Audio Only\)](#) This is a .wav file. It has much better audio quality. Depending on the speed of your current internet session it may be better to download this and run it from your audio device.

[Internigma \(Audio Only\)](#) This is a .mp3 file which is audio only but well suited for streaming over the internet.

Clicking on the MOV movie below will start a download of the movie. This is a 413MB file and can take a couple minutes to download. After the download is complete go to the download folder. Now you can click on the file and your default player will play it. This will play on many movie apps but is tailored to Apple products.

[Internigma \(Stereo Movie\)](#)

Download Only: Clicking on the enhanced ec3 124MB file below will stream audio only using Atmos surround sound. This is a common file format but may not work on a few devices. The link below will take you to an iCloud file. Hover the mouse over the highlighted file and click on the three dots at the end. You can click on “Download a copy” or if you have an Apple account you can add the file to your iCloud drive. Double clicking on the downloaded file should start the song on your default player or device. Atmos will determine if you only have a stereo player or many surround sound configurations including Stereo, 3.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.4, 7.1.2, 7.1.4, 9.1.4, 9.1.6 and play in the mode that best accommodates your device.

[Internigma \(Dolby Atmos Audio\)](#)

Download Only: Depending on the connection this 3.37GB movie can take 5 minutes or longer to download. The link will take you to an iCloud file. Hover the mouse over the highlighted file and click on the three dots at the end. You can click on “Download a copy” or if you have an Apple account you can add the file to your iCloud drive. Once the file is downloaded you can play it with many apps and devices that support movies. Double clicking on the downloaded file should start the song on your default player or device. Atmos will determine if you only have a stereo player or many surround sound configurations including Stereo, 3.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.4, 7.1.2, 7.1.4, 9.1.4, 9.1.6 and play in the mode that best accommodates your device.

[Internigma \(Download Only-3.37GB Dolby Atmos Movie\)](#)

Interludes

This song was completed on October 12, 2024. I felt a need to write this after my book “Quanta, Alterity, and Love” was published on Amazon. It reflects the feelings, passion, joy, and incredible hope which intervenes meaningfully in my temporal experience. In writing the book I found a sense of meaning inseparably bound with wonder and all the pain and love in which I am embodied after 68 years of life. I think this song brings these emotions to the fore for me and I hope for others.

Distance

This is the first finished song of Alterity. It has emotional reflections in me for my departed son. This piece took over a year to compose and six weeks to produce. It is an eight-minute song. There is a lot of orchestration and movements. I really like songs which, like life, have movements and transitions which in reflection are hauntingly emotional and hopefully interesting. I had software plugins for Pro Tools which help amateurs like me shortcut the extreme learning curve for the last stage of music production

called mastering. Mastering is an engineering, black art which seeks to pick up the mix to more vivid and captivating tonal dimensions. Mastering entails three aspects: mono compatibility, dynamic maximizing and tonal balancing. Mono compatibility has to do with making the stereo final mix compatible in mono situations. If a stereo piece is played in mono, there can be clashes and dropouts which degrade the sound. I was not concerned about this for my compositions as I was solely focused on stereo environments. Dynamic maximizing really picks up the presence and clarity of the song using sophisticated compression and equalization techniques. It really does sound great for certain kinds of popular music and for some of my future Alterity projects. However, for Distance and orchestral or jazz type pieces it does not seem appropriate to me in many cases. It decreases the dynamic range, loudness and softness, which certain pieces really need to convey the emotional content. I tried a canned mastering setting for Distance in Pro Tools by mastering great, Greg Calbi, for general clarity and it certainly accomplished the stated outcome by, for me, at too high a price for my emotive goals in this piece. One stated reason for this kind of mastering is that folks will not have to turn volume levels up and down for different songs. For mass production, this is probably desirable, but I have no qualms with setting and changing volume levels depending on what I am trying to hear in a song. Anyway, Distance is not a song I wanted to sacrifice the range of dynamics to fit goals of mass production. I do think tonal balance is important. Tonal balance is the art of mastering the song so that it sounds the best it can be on all types of audio environments and systems. I have to confess my old way of playing a mixed song in many types of acoustics environments and stereo equipment - then, remixing to find a happy medium - then, repeat after tweaks, *ad infinitum* is more like trying to reinvent the wheel every time you need to make one. Tonal balancing is the answer to shortcut that process. I have much to learn in this regard, so I apologize in advance if the song does not play well in your environment or equipment. I would love to hear good and bad, any perceived issues and a short description of your environment/system.

I do not know when or even if I will get to the other songs that I sketched out on guitar. I think the sketches themselves are interesting even without all the other compositional trappings of other voicings and instruments. I especially like Lost Light Star Bright simply as it is. It reflects my love for my lost son.

I may leave "Lost Light Star Bright" as simply a guitar piece. Personally, I think it is beautiful.

Awakening, Stellar Night, Infinite Diversity, Solar Winds, Quasar Play, Galactic Breeze, Quantum Glide, and Stellar Night are still in development.