

# FURRY FANTASIES



## HOW THE FURRY FANTASIES BECAME REALITY

I have been interested in music as long as I can remember, although the first time I actively began composing was back in 1986 when I got my second home computer, a mighty Commodore C-128. Later on I switched over to an Amiga, using the common tracker software, writing lots of unreleased music. My personal „breakthrough“ came when I discovered the internet and furry fandom. I was amazed by the enormous amount of creativity in the fandom meeting other hobby musicians for the first time. At that time, I also bought my first PC, including a Soundblaster AWE-32 card, with an additional Yamaha DB50-XG daughter board. It was like heaven, as I never had such great possibilities discovering that using a custom MIDI setup is far more flexible than every tracker in the world. However it also had its drawbacks. Distribution over the Net was almost impossible or

at least slow and difficult. I was not the only one who had this problem. So the idea of this CD was born. A CD would allow everyone to present their music as it was intended, with no lossy audio compression, no dependance from special MIDI hardware or fast processors. I began searching for composers to join the project ending up with an unexpected flood of requests, even though I limited the participation to European furries. At first I was afraid of not getting enough material. However, I got so much, I had to turn some people down because I ran out of space. Now, after almost one year of planning, composing, recording and mixing, it is done. In your paws lies the very first furry music sampler, produced by furries, for furries. It is produced on a non-profit basis. That means that we, the producers, do not charge any more than the cost.

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO**

It is of course obvious that this is a hobby project. The music was composed and played by hobby composers on their amateur equipment and the CD was recorded on amateur equipment, too. The CD is far from perfect, but it is the best we could achieve with our equipment. We thoroughly hope that you are going to enjoy it despite its static clicks and other errors. Most of these songs are also available on the Web. But many songs have been re-orchestrated, enhanced, re-mixed and re-recorded especially for this CD release.

Sven „Cheetah“ Tegethoff  
August 17th, 1997

I would like to thank the following persons:

### **Helge „Helsch“ Kautz**

for letting me use his home studio and for all the help with the reworking of „The Fox and the Prince“, „Dusk Upon Us“ and „Sinai Airships“.

### **Stefan Benesch**

for providing the hard disk recording equipment.

### **Yannick „Cougar“ Le Guern**

for letting me use his DAT recorder and for doing the CD production.

### **Kyo**

for the wonderful cover artwork!

### **Beth Bode**

for proofreading and editing this booklet

### **And all the artists**

for their contributions, making this CD possible.

# CHEETAH

(Sven Tegethoff)

Most of my biography is already contained in the *How the Furry Fantasies Became Reality* section. Currently, I'm working as a freelance games programmer. One of my earlier projects was the Amiga conversion of the furry adventure game *Inherit the Earth*, of which I also rewrote the soundtrack. I am also working on the organization on this year's European furry convention, Eurofurence #3. I have almost no theoretical knowledge of music, and I can't play any instrument. All of my music is created only by using mouse and keyboard. As every composer does, I experiment a lot. Whenever I encounter an idea I like, I keep it. Improvising with notes on the screen creates lots of different scenes in my imagination and soon I find a theme to follow, which later turns into a song... or maybe not. There is always tons of unfinished stuff catching dust on my hard drive ... The amount

of time I work on one song varies widely. *The Tiger's Dream* took one single weekend to complete, while *Escape from the City* took almost 6 weeks until I was content with it.

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# HELGE

(Helge Kautz)

„My name is Helge, and I live in Duesseldorf, only 5 minutes away from Cougar. Cougar is my friend. He and I did his Furry Song using my equipment, so he offered me a chance to place one of my songs on the CD. The song now named *Teela* (which is the name of my sweet cat and derived from one of my favourite Novels, *Ringworld* by Larry Niven) was originally planned as a bonus track for a CD game that has never been released nor ever will be. I have been composing songs for nearly 12 years, first without help from computers, then for many years with an Amiga as a sequencer. I've just switched over to a PC, and do not feel really comfortable with it yet :)

My equipment: Roland a-Juno 2, Roland U22, Roland SC-55, Kawai K1r, Alesis Quadraverb, Ross 1202 Mixer, Creative Labs SB32/8 MB

Some more stuff, not used in the production of this song, like: Roland SH-101, Roland TR-505, Roland A-30, Akai AX-805, Boss BX-116, Tascam 238S (8-Track)

Okay, I know I am a showoff, but hey, this is the one opportunity I've been waiting for all those years. ;-) It's really fun to participate and I like all the great stuff you guys put together on this CD!!!

Please show due respect to Cheetah, who really put an enormous effort into this project and he did it incredibly well!!

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# NESSUS

(Thomas Houlberg)

„Born and living in Esbjerg, Denmark, I've only been interested in music since about 1990 when I began writing tracker modules. A few years later, I switched to using MIDI after trying out a demonstration setup where I was immediately hooked. Initially, I purchased a Kawai FS-800, quickly got rid of it and finally bought the Roland JV-30 that I'm presently using. I have no formal music education whatsoever, but hopefully will find the time to catch up on the theory. I've always been fascinated by anthropomorphic art and ideas, which led me to the furry community in 1995. I intend to remain as roleplayer, graphical artist and composer.

All my songs are written using an Amiga 4000/030, running Bars & Pipes Pro v2.5 in conjunction with a Roland JV-30. Not a particularly classy setup, but

ideal for my needs as a spare-time composer. Bring Dr. Pepper to Denmark.-)"

Two of Nessus' songs appear on this album in heavily re-orchestrated versions. These special versions of *Sinai Airships* and *Dusk Upon Us* have been re-recorded by Cheetah and Hellsch, using a Roland SC-55, Roland U22 and Kawai K1r)

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# COUGAR

(Yannick Le Guern)

Cougar, known as the administrator of the tigress.com furry internet site is a true jack of all trades. He has done about everything one can do: selling fish, truck driving, moving crates at a meat import/export company, desktop publishing at a printshop, and starting his own business as internet provider and Macintosh Computer dealer. In his free time, he is learning to play bass guitar. He is a good friend of Hensch, who assisted him writing his first song, *Lionne sous la pluie*. Cougar is a collector of plush animals, loves science fiction and has had about every computer one can have: Commodore 64, several Amigas (sysop of his own BBS system), Atari ST, Mega ST 4, MAI multiprocessor systems, several PCs, and lots of Apple Macintoshes. He comes from a truly international family, being a French citizen living in Germany, with relatives in France, the United States and Germany.

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# SHALIAN

(Steinar Eliassen)

Shalian is a silly white tiger with a dolby purround system and an extended interest in music. Using anything from FastTracker to MIDI equipment to generate his purrsional sounds, equipped with a little different MIDI sound stuff by the right paw and a computer mouse by the left, he does music because music is fun.

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(Thomas Hagenfeldt)

Chama is a composer who is currently (August 1997) studying computer technology at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm. He earns the occasional cent for a living by freelance programming.

Music is the great passion in Chama's everyday life. He is a singer in three choirs as well as a solo singer. As a composer he makes both furry music and more traditional musical works, the latter often for choir. His greatest strength is composing melodical orchestral polyphony. The most important thing in a composition, according to Chama, is doubtlessly the melody.

The tools used for composing are very often the computer, and Fast Tracker II which is what Chama prefers for that, even though it has its limitations. He is instead working on another music

system, Vulpine Tracker, which he probably will use for future musical productions.

Chama has a great interest and empathy for animals of all kinds, especially foxes. As he is a furry, he does identify himself with the cape fox in particular, and if you address him as such he will be happy :)

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# SKAVEN

(Peter Hajba)

Peter „Skaven“ Hajba is a computer hobbyist who has been working on a very computer-related genre of music called ‚tracker music‘ for a number of years now. Tracker songs are a cheap, yet expressive and convenient means of making one’s musical aspirations into reality, as these tracks may show you. The songs consist entirely of samples. For tracker songs, small samples with low sample rates are usually used, because it keeps the song file size small, making it easier to distribute.

Skaven started his ‚career‘ in the year 1991 and has been exploring the areas of music at his leisure ever since. Currently he is working in the Finnish game company Remedy Entertainment, specializing in 3D character animation.

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# LUTRA

(Manuel Jehkul)

Lutra is a 22-year old student of electrotechnical engineering. He loves music and his motto is „Everything which creates sound, makes a kind of music“. That is the way he creates his music and some of his creations may sound weird. But he likes weird stuff.

Most of his compositions range from Ambient, over Trance to House, but he is very flexible, as his two contributions on this CD show. He expresses his feelings and fun of life through his music. His way of composing is to improvise on his keyboard, then putting his spontaneous ideas together to a song.

His favourite tool for composing is *Fastracker II* for tracking, or *Cakewalk 5.0* for MIDI sequencing. He uses samples from Sample CDs, the Internet, and also creates his own sounds.

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Arnie wants to remain anonymous. No information available.

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# MORE ABOUT FURRY FANTASIES

## **120kph:**

Composed, arranged and recorded by: Cheetah  
(Sven Tegethoff)

Did you know that Cheetahs can run with a speed up to 120 kilometers per hour? This song is dedicated to the fastest and swiftest species of the felines on our planet. (Yes, I know, it should be kmh, not kph. Too late.)

## **Escape from the City:**

Composed, arranged and recorded by: Cheetah  
(Sven Tegethoff)

This song tells the story of a werecat. It starts in the urban jungle, the crowded city. Then suddenly, a strong primal urge takes over and he knows that his transformation will take place soon. He escapes from the city to be one with nature, to let the transformation happen

where he was born ... a moment of joy, of excitement. It is over too soon, and he has to return to his normal life, although he is still wild at heart.

## **The Tiger's Dream:**

Composed, arranged and recorded by: Cheetah  
(Sven Tegethoff)

Have you ever seen something more content, more peaceful than a sleeping big cat? This song is about the dreams, tigers dream ... pleasant dreams, floating dreams, playful dreams, exciting dreams. This version is slightly enhanced in comparison to the version which was released on the internet.

## **Teela:**

Composed, arranged and recorded by: Helsch (Helge Kautz)

This song was originally meant to be a bonus track of a computer game soundtrack Helge had composed. But the project failed and the music was never released. He dedicated this song to his cat, Teela.

## **Dusk Upon Us:**

Composed by: Nessus (Thomas Houlberg), Rearranged by: Cheetah (Sven Tegethoff), Recorded by Helsch (Helge Kautz)

„This is an attempt to write a piece in the Irish/English folk genre. Whether that succeeded or not, I'll leave to the individual listener's opinion. I'm trying out a number of different ideas in the song, which is why it seems to be having trouble sticking to a specific style. It was written during May 1997 and occupies 15 MIDI tracks.“

## **Ouverture Du Loup:**

Composed, arranged and recorded by: Nessus (Thomas Houlberg)

„This piece was originally commissioned for FurryMUCK's webpage in the beginning of 1997, but did not turn out as it was supposed to. Lacking feedback, I paused the project, but revived and completed the song with a new title for this CD. It could have easily been longer, but due to its primitive nature, I decided to end it and concentrate on other songs instead.“

## **Sinai Airships:**

Composed by: Nessus (Thomas Houlberg), Rearranged by: Cheetah (Sven Tegethoff), Recorded by Helsch (Helge Kautz)

„This song was inspired by a roleplay session I watched on Sinai MUCK during Spring 1997. In combination with a drawing of the specialized airships used on the planet, the song describes

in three parts the preparation, takeoff and partial flight of such a ship."

### **Lionne sous la pluie:**

Composed by: Cougar (Yannick le Guern),  
Arranged and recorded by: Hensch (Helge Kautz)

This song was created in a series of get-togethers between Cougar and Hensch. If you speak at least a little bit French, it will be very obvious what the name has to do with this song about lions ...

### **Over the Mountains:**

Composed, arranged and recorded by: Shalian (Steinar Eliassen)

"*Over the Mountains* was written for another dear friend, Nimbl. The main tune came out as an idea for an Irish sounding tune, but the beat was changed from 3/4 to 4/4 and modified so much that it didn't end up that way. It is a MIDI sequence using Ensoniq VFX and Roland SC50."

### **The Fox and the Prince:**

Composed, arranged and performed by: Chama (Thomas Hagenfeldt), Digital remastering of the voice track by: Cheetah (Sven Tegethoff), Recording by Hensch (Helge Kautz)

"One is prince and one is fox but who is who?"

*The Fox and the Prince* is the first in the new era of furry songs recorded with vocals. Starring in this particular song is Chama himself, singing the lead in a ballad to a fox, or is he a prince? The profound mystery is one that will never be solved, neither by human nor by fox.

This version has been completely reworked and is widely enhanced in comparison to the version which was released on the Internet. The quality of the vocal recordings has been significantly improved.

## **Neat Fox:**

Composed and arranged by: Chama (Thomas Hagenfeldt), Recorded by: Cheetah (Sven Tegethoff)

„Someone once said: ‚Foxes are neat.‘  
I wonder if he knew how right he was.”

Some say it's the music of fox cubs playing, some say it's the beauty of a vixen. Some hint that it's the intense feeling just before the fox pounces and some declare solemnly that it's the fox's spirit itself. What you experience might be different, but this song is about foxes. *Neat Fox* is one of Chama's earlier fully orchestrated musical productions using the computer. Listen closely. The song has more than it reveals.

## **Cool 'Coon:**

Composed and arranged by: Chama (Thomas Hagenfeldt), Recorded by: Cheetah (Sven Tegethoff)

„Come join, whirl round and rejoice in the dance of the cool raccoon.”

*Cool 'Coon* is a song in the obscure genre called furry jazz. Being from the beginning a little musical experiment, *Cool 'Coon* rapidly grew to become a full-fledged jazz rondo, with the main theme returning in different appearances in the various instruments. The choice of instruments is not entirely trivial. The style of the song was inspired by the raccoon, and in this particular instant, a very cool one. So join the dance, and snap your claws.

## **Roo Tool:**

Composed and arranged by: Shalian (Steinar Eliasen), Recorded by: Cheetah (Sven Tegethoff)

„This tune was written for my dear friend Cataroo, the beat and ‚splitted’ note thingie is to show how she and her kind (atleast half of it, Kangaroos) are: Very jumpy and energetic., written as an XM file.”



## **Catch that Goblin!:**

Composed and arranged by: Skaven (Peter Hajba),  
Recorded by: Cheetah (Sven Tegethoff)

This song has been (very obviously) inspired by the orchestral productions of Danny Elfman. A lot of effort was put into choosing the samples and orchestration of this production. This was evidently worth it, as the song won first price in the Assembly'95 demoscene happening in Helsinki, Finland.

## **Night of the Cats:**

Composed and arranged by: Skaven (Peter Hajba),  
Recorded by: Cheetah (Sven Tegethoff)

An older song which also took part in an Assembly, 1994 to be more exact, but didn't make it to the top 20. The song was later joined by a sequel *Revenge of the Cats* in 1997, available on the homepage of the author.

## **Gargoyle:**

Composed and arranged by: Lutra (Manuel Jehkul),  
Recorded by: Cheetah (Sven Tegethoff)

This song was written in exchange for a piece of artwork from a friend. It is very dark, almost gothic. Imagine the rooftop of an old house in a big city, the wind blowing cold, stone creatures staring into the cloudy sky of the night ...

## **Piano Ballad:**

Composed and arranged by: Lutra (Manuel Jehkul),  
Recorded by: Cheetah (Sven Tegethoff)

This song was created on a melancholic evening, by improvising on the keyboard. The *Piano Ballad* started out as a playful imitation of Richard Clayderman, but quickly evolved into an independant composition. This doesn't attempt to hide its roots, but does not copy anything either.

## **Far Rising Sun (Remix):**

Composed by: Arnie. Re-mixed, re-arranged and recorded by: Cheetah (Sven Tegethoff)

This version is quite different from the original. It is slightly longer and has a more spectacular climax. Some old 8 bit samples have been replaced with better, 16 bit samples. Some ambient background noises have been added, too.

## **Wandering Wolves:**

Composed and arranged by: Arnie. Recorded by: Cheetah (Sven Tegethoff)

This is a very dark, creepy song. Arnie loves gothic and dark wave. It shows, making this the perfect closing title.

# THE FOX AND THE PRINCE

Lyrics and Music by Chama

I know of a fox, I know a prince  
and this tale's about the two,  
even though they've both got tails  
But, then who is who ?  
Though I know, the story tells  
that the prince rode out one day  
in a search for a friend  
that no money could pay  
But however far he went  
he could not find  
any friend, no matter how  
many miles he left behind  
and the prince at last gave up  
his futile quest  
Disappointed, he rode home  
to give his soul some rest

The prince had forgotten as he went  
that he had a little friend  
a fox was waiting there  
as he would, to the end  
And the prince did understand  
as he met his fox again  
that friendship comes with love  
and the search was all in vain  
And, thus ends our little tale  
in a happy way.  
Only one question remains.  
Can you answer it, so say...  
This story speaks of us,  
one is me, one is you  
one is prince, and one fox  
but who is who?

# TRACKLISTING

## MIDI Section

1	Cheetah	120 kph	7:12
2	Cheetah	Escape from the City	4:56
3	Cheetah	The Tiger's Dream	6:23
4	Helsch	Teela	5:09
5	Nessus	Dusk Upon Us	3:15
6	Nessus	Overture du Loup	2:17
7	Nessus	Sinai Airships	3:48
8	Cougar	Lionne sous la pluie	4:54
9	Shalian	Over the Mountains	2:43

## MOD Section

10	Chama	The Fox and the Prince	2:56
11	Chama	Neat Fox	3:59
12	Chama	Cool Coon	3:29
13	Shalian	Roo Tool	2:38
14	Skaven	Catch that Goblin!	1:43
15	Skaven	Night of the Cats	2:22
16	Lutra	Piano Ballad	4:21
17	Lutra	Gargoyle	4:18
18	Arnie	Far Rising Sun (Remix)	2:30
19	Arnie	Wandering Wolves	4:54

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