01 MIRROR UNDER WATER
02 TRAIN TO THE PAST
03 TINY WONDERS
04 MYSTERY OF THE WOODS
05 WHISPERS BEYOND TIME FT. JAKOB MANZ
06 STARS AMONG US
07 WHAT WILL REMAIN FT. DALAIJARGAL DAANSUREN
08 DESERT DREAM
09 MAYBE THE CLOUDS
10 ROAD AHEAD

SHUTEEN ERDENEBAATAR PIANO
NILS KUGELMANN CONTRA-ALTO CLARINET (1·2·4·5·7·9); DOUBLE BASS (3·6·10)
JAKOB MANZ ALTO RECORDER (5)
DALAIJARGAL DAANSUREN MORIN KHUUR (7)

PRODUCED BY **SHUTEEN ERDENEBAATAR**, **NILS KUGELMANN**, AND **ANDREAS BRANDIS**
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INITIATIVE MUSIK

ERDENEBAATAR KUGELMANN UNDER THE SAME STARS MTM0464

SHUTEEN ERDENEBAATAR NILS KUGELMANN UNDER THE SAME STARS





SHUTEEN ERDENEBAATAR
NILS KUGELMANN
UNDER THE SAME STARS

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01 **MIRROR UNDER WATER**

Presence. Fleeting beauty. Life.

Accepting imperfection, we cherish moments that might have passed unnoticed. – S.E.

02 **TRAIN TO THE PAST**

A window seat.
A faded landscape rushing backwards.
The warm sting of melancholy.

Lost in memories—we barely notice arriving at the station: the here and now.
This very moment. – N.K.

03 **TINY WONDERS**

People. Moments. Objects.
Coincidences that seem too good to be true.

What is true is the happiness they bring— the stuffed animal that stays for life,
a good morning coffee, time spent with a loved one. – N.K.

04 **MYSTERY OF THE WOODS**

A sanctuary. The stillness of the forest. Peace.

Nothing is urgent. It's an invitation, not to escape, but to arrive —
in clarity, a sense of home. – S.E.

05 **WHISPERS BEYOND TIME**

Quiet wisdom. Passed through generations.

A memory we haven't lived, but know deeply.
The first piece that I wrote for our duo features our dear friend and collaborator Jakob Manz on alto recorder. – S.E.

06 **STARS AMONG US**

Stars seem distant, but are part of us.
Each life, a spark of light.

The brilliance we seek outside is often within, waiting to be discovered. – S.E.

07 **WHAT WILL REMAIN?**

Nothing lasts forever—except, perhaps,
a shared moment of joy, and this melody.

This ode to Shuteen's homeland features the remarkable Dalaijargal Daansuren playing Mongolia's national instrument, the morin khuur, also known as the horsehead fiddle. – N.K.





08 **DESERT DREAM**

My father grew up in the vast Gobi Desert.
I, in the bustling city - the desert a distant dream.

In 2024, I stood in its vastness for the first time, and truly felt home. – S.E.

09 **MAYBE THE CLOUDS**

After I composed this piece, Shuteen noticed clouds drifting past the window.
Were they the unwitting source of inspiration?
Listening now, 'maybe' becomes 'certainty.' – N.K..

10 **ROAD AHEAD**

A joyful note.
A door opening.
New possibilities.

Full of anticipation, the melody winks at things to come:
Embrace the journey! Follow your heart with fearless curiosity! – S.E.

DEAR LISTENER,

What began as a spark of curiosity has grown into a joyful journey of playing, composing, and discovering together. From the moment we paired the piano with the contra-alto clarinet something clicked — it felt intimate, unexpected, and deeply alive.

As partners in life and in sound, we are both incredibly grateful to share this new music with you.

When we searched for existing repertoire that gave voice to the contra-alto clarinet in a chamber music setting, we found almost nothing. That absence became our inspiration. Guided by the emotions that this unique marriage of timbres evoked in us we began composing these works.

After years of performing together in ensembles, it felt natural, perfect, and indeed magical to explore this musical journey in duo. Each song became a new conversation, and a new celebration of all that we've built together: our shared love for music, our growing relationship, our individual musical voices and careers that have somehow effortlessly intertwined. How amazing that we grew up on different continents and magically found each other and all of the wonderful people we've met along the way.

Under the Same Stars would never have been possible without the support of the beautiful people who helped this duo dream take flight. We owe a huge thanks to Jana, the founder of Motéma, for her unwavering belief in us and our music. To Becca, for the stunning artwork. To Uli, for the beautiful photographs and videos. To Kseniya, for her attention to detail during the recording process. To Klaus, for his thoughtful mixing and mastering and presenting our music in its best possible light. To Andreas, for his positive energy, enormous expertise and care in crafting this album with us in the studio. To Max, Amareia, and the entire Motéma Music family for their continuous support and encouragement. Last but not least, to our families and friends, who we can always lean on.

WITH LOVE AND WONDER,

SHUTEEN & NILS

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PRODUCED BY SHUTEEN ERDENEBAATAR, NILS KUGELMANN AND ANDREAS BRANDIS
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