

CPR
Present
Electric Sufi
And their debut single
O Ignis Spiritus

Artist: **ELECTRIC SUFI**
Release: **O IGNIS SPIRITUS**
Format: Digital Single
Label: **CPR**
Genre: World Music, Electronica, Traditional



Manchester, Sheffield & Doncaster collective **Electric Sufi**, whose music is inspired by Muslim, Christian & Humanist cosmologies, release the single **O Ignis Spiritus** ahead of their debut album **Breathe In Love**, due out this summer. Blending electronica, Sufi singing & Arabic instrumental virtuosity, the trio aim to promote engagement with climate change issues through their music, drawing traditions together rather than pushing them apart.



With a bed of electronica & an Ebow guitar to set the scene, **Electric Sufi**'s version of **O Ignis Spiritus**, a mediaeval chant by *St. Hildegarde*, sees a Muslim Sufi woman singing ancient Christian music written by a Christian woman. This embodies their mission of bringing traditions & ideologies together in a harmonious way to precipitate solving issues like climate change & societal division. Producer **Rupert Till** says of **O Ignis Spiritus**: "it's a perfect introduction to our sound, mixing ancient melodies with cutting edge recording techniques & our own personal backgrounds - an expression of what can be achieved when we all work together".

Utilising tuning based on the *Solfeggio Frequencies*, an ancient six-tone scale said by some to be incorporated in Gregorian chants & other sacred music, research suggests that the pitch 528Hz on which the song is centred has healing properties & can help with relaxation.

Electric Sufi are Sheffield based Professor of Music & Sound Archaeologist at Huddersfield University **Rupert Till**, Manchester based singer-songwriter & environmental activist **Sarah Yaseen** plus Nottingham based multi-instrumentalist / University lecturer **Mina Mikhael Salama**.

Rupert has produced ambient dance, chillout & electronic music under the moniker **Professor Chill** including the 2018 album **Dub Archaeology**.

He's also written the book **Pop Cult** which delves into the mysteries of music & spirituality, participated in the BBC TV series *Civilisations*, plus written articles in **The Quietus**, **Huffington Post** & **New Scientist**. His research projects cover various subjects ranging from 'The influences of Religion on British Club Culture & Electronic Dance music' to 'Sound Archaeology, Acoustics & Cave Art'.



Sarah, whose family roots are in Kashmir, is known in world music circles for singing in UK *Womad* favourites **Rafiki Jazz** & Danish all-woman ensemble **Radiant Arcadia**. In **Electric Sufi** she sings in Urdu, Punjabi, Persian, Latin & English – & by doing so, draws upon a wide range of cultural influences. Inspired by *Qawwali* (Islamic devotional singing from India) & *Ghazals* (Arabic poetry), she has one foot firmly placed in a contemporary multicultural world & the other in the ancient lyrical & musical traditions on which she draws.

Mina, a Coptic Christian from Alexandria, Egypt, came to the UK as a refugee, taking asylum here from persecution in his homeland. He has since contributed much to UK culture through performances at *WOMAD* & *Edinburgh Festival*. Along with Rupert, Mina has also contributed to the BBC TV series *Civilisations* where he demonstrated a 30,000-year-old Isturitz Vulture bone flute. On an international level, Mina has contributed to the music score on Disney's *Aladdin*, directed by *Guy Richie* & starring *Will Smith*, *Mena Massoud* & *Naomi Scott*.

The trio brings much collectively & individually to the **Electric Sufi** sound, resulting in a rich tapestry of cultural & musical layers of influence. Their modern interpretation of **O Ignis Spiritus** is a wonderful introduction to this enchanted world & their message of hope.

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