



Humn - Hugo De Westelinck, Portofolio, 2024

«The more I approach the mountain, the more I'm away from it»
Knowledge, the second attention, 2019

My interest in creation and sound exploration stems from a need to explore different parts of my consciousness and make them a ground for expansion. This is the starting point of my research. My work constantly responds to lived experiences, drawing inspiration from events in everyday life. A reading or a new learning experience, for instance, is filtered through a new prism of understanding and therefore of analysis.

The name Humn establishes a direct link with the human, as it reflects a search. Becoming Human is a learning process that I believe to be endless, filled with increasingly complex branches as we progress.

I explore the principle of sensory transfer, meaning the energy transmitted by sound and its vibrations. More precisely, I focus on the deeper connection these vibrations can create between our internal and external perceptions, revealing our understanding of/in space.

I work with sound through the concept of an inner journey, similar to what is used, for example, in guided visualization meditations. The goal is to connect with oneself, with one's own archetypes, memories, and life experiences in order to reconstruct them. To activate the inner cinema.

Each project and album is approached with a different aesthetic and sound material, revealing a new aspect of the inner and outer self. Whether it's highly experimental ambient or more rhythmic pop.

I sample sounds from various instruments I've collected, as well as from my own voice, and through sound design, I create different soundscapes. Influenced by rave culture and the Brussels nightlife, many of the sounds draw from techno and trance. As a history, mythology, and ethnology enthusiast, I also integrate sounds from various ethnic groups and their distinct hypnotic techniques. The immersive aspect of my work is largely inspired by the world of cinema and video games. In this way, I consolidate different trance methods from around the world to create a contemporary spiritual journey.

Biography

Humn, a self-taught musician residing in Brussels, was introduced to the piano at a young age by his father. He also took singing and music theory lessons at the music academy. During his secondary studies in fine arts, while distanced from sound, he expressed himself through other media such as writing and installations.

After graduating, he explored the nightlife scene in Brussels and Berlin, immersing himself in a captivating and hypnotic sound world. He returned to studies in video at the Agnès Varda School of Photography and Videography, delving into cinema, staging, and visual and sound experimentation. He began composing soundtracks for his own projects, working on the dramaturgical aspect of sound.

Later, Humn fell seriously ill and undertook therapeutic work that led him away from conventional medicine. He explored the shamanic medicines of Latin America, discovering meditation and Indo-Buddhist practices. During this period, he began composing music, developing the idea of "inner cinema" composed of shamanic and meditative sounds and instruments.

In 2019, he traveled to India, and upon his return, he released his debut album, *The Second Attention*, under the *Homosensibilis Record* label. A few months later, he released his second album, *The Third Lodge*, also under the same label.

During the pandemic lockdown, he composed over sixty tracks and collaborated with the *Xeno Gallery* and the *ShaktiStream* platform, giving two live-streamed concerts.

In 2021, he released his album *Opening The Gate* on the **Antibody** label, accompanied by two videos, and performed several concerts, including at the Queer **Homographia** festival, as well as at **Atelier 210** and **DeSingel** in Antwerp.

He also collaborates with the *Kneph* collective as a sound designer and performer during the summers of 2022 and 2023 in partnership with Parkpoetik.

In 2023, as a passionate musician and sound journey enthusiast, he was invited for a DJ residency on **Lyl Radio**, titled *Faith in Being*. He also mixes on **Kiosk Radio** (Belgium) and *Rinse FM* (Paris). In addition, he released his EP *Piano Songs Two: Portraits*.

At the end of 2023, he began a collaboration with 3D artist Laurie-Anne Jaubert, giving birth to the duo "*Cenote*." Together, they will undertake their first residency at **Overtoon** in May 2024.



Hugo De Westelinck
Née le 29/04/90
bruxelles

Humn will release his album *Alchemy* in 2024, accompanied by visuals from Laurie-Anne Jaubert. He will present it live in Strasbourg at **Karmen Camina**.

In 2024, he joins the *Barra Movement* collective, collaborating on the project *Whisperings of the Taxus Trees*, where he offers a guided meditation. He is also involved in developing a project with *Barra Movement* focused on the water sources of Brussels.

Throughout 2024, Humn will delve into lyrical singing, participating in a Hildegard Von Bingen workshop at **St. Gudula Cathedral** in Brussels, where he will perform two concerts with a choir.



Live - atelier 2010

Website:

[Instagram](#)

[Spotify](#)

[Soundcloud](#)

[Youtube](#)

[Bandcamp](#)

Spiritual Biography

Alongside his artistic work, Humn explores various practices to work on self-awareness, both technically and esoterically. This spiritual journey has led him to explore traditions and wisdom from multiple cultures, in response to profound personal experiences.

It all began when Hugo faced an illness for which modern medicine could not provide a satisfying solution. Seeking alternatives, he turned to traditional medicines, delving into South American and Toltec shamanic practices. This holistic and spiritual approach deeply transformed him, opening the doors to ancient knowledge and inner healing.

In parallel, Hugo began learning the Tarot de Marseille, a practice he continues to this day. This symbolic tool became a way for him to deepen his exploration of the unconscious and psychomagic, particularly through the teachings of Alejandro Jodorowsky.

In 2016, a crucial step in his spiritual path was the experience of ayahuasca. For about six years, he consumed this sacred medicine in a ritual context, using it as part of his healing process. His immersion in South American shamanism also sparked his interest in meditation and non-European ancient wisdom, leading him to explore other spiritual paths.

In 2019, an inner calling took him to India, where he discovered religious and funerary practices in the north of the country and participated in the Kumbh Mela, a major religious fair gathering various beliefs, and the Shivaratri, a festival dedicated to the god Shiva. These experiences enriched his meditative and esoteric approach, deepening his understanding of Eastern traditions.

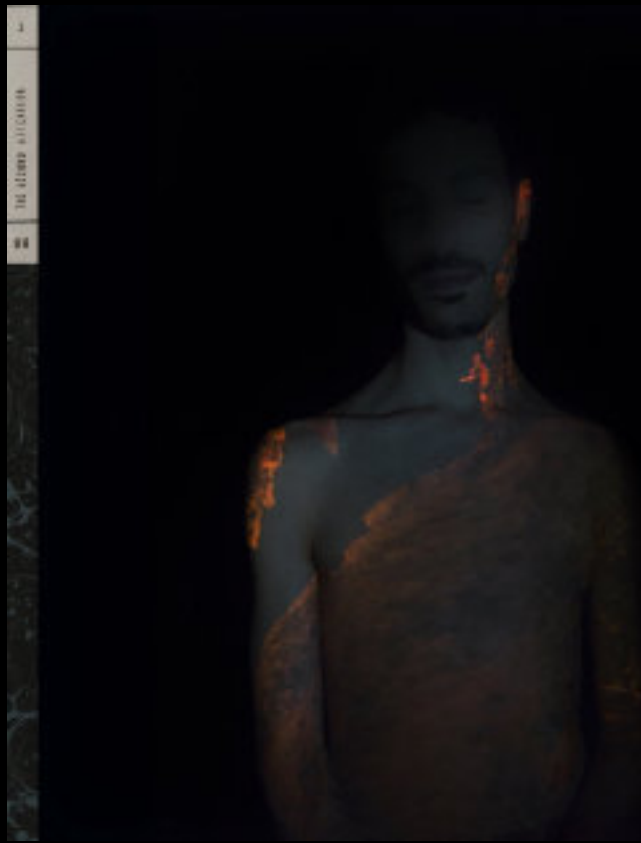
Upon his return, Hugo felt the need to balance his spiritual quest by exploring European wisdom. Aware of the risk of exclusively seeking outside his own culture, he turned to Christian mysticism as well as Druidic and Slavic traditions. In 2023, he was initiated into the Way of the Rose in Glastonbury and plans to receive initiation into the priesthood of the Way of Mary Magdalene between 2024 and 2025, also in Glastonbury.

Eager to share what he has learned, Hugo began creating meditation and mindfulness circles in a secular setting called "YRINT-LAB." His goal is to make these practices accessible to everyone, regardless of individual beliefs or spiritual paths. The guided meditation he has developed over the years has become his main healing tool.

Occasionally, Hugo also offers rose medicines and rituals related to the elements of nature. Professionally, he continues to train in mindfulness to provide his services in schools and businesses, bringing spiritual and healing practices into broader, more diverse contexts.

The Spiritual growth nourish deeply his Arts projects, it's the soil of it.





The Second attention (2020)

The second attention » is a project born by reading of the book of Carlos Castaneda: « The art of dreaming ».

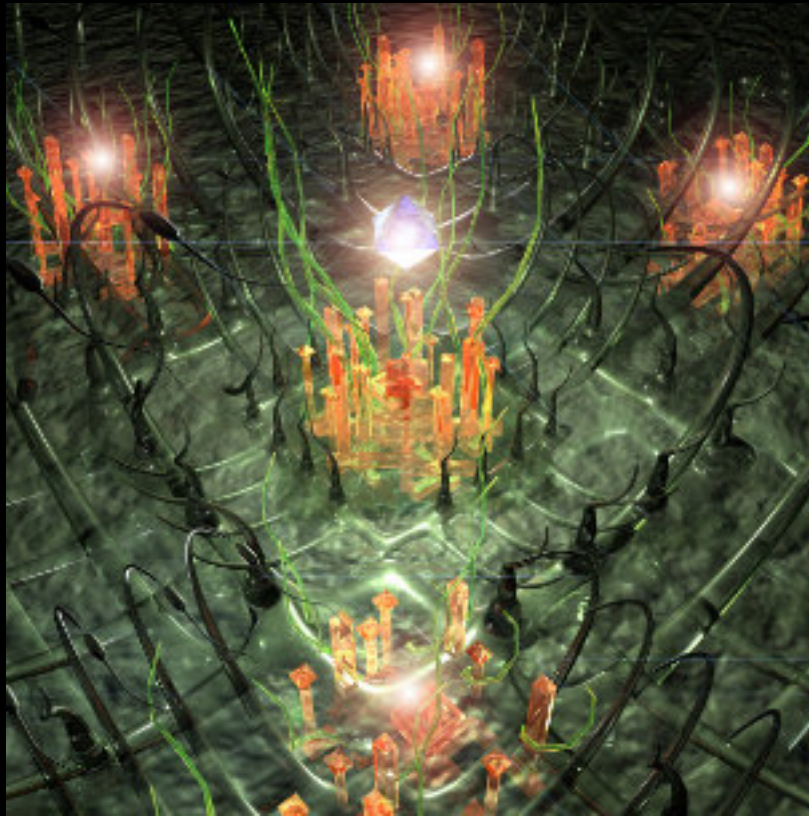
When I first read this book I was already questioning my world and the limits of my perceptions. But the book pushed me over these limits and gave me some questions: « How can I transcend my reality? Is my reality the only one? What is dreaming? And what can I do with it? ».and the most important question for me was : « What is behind the veil of my consciousness? » I usually remember my dreams every-night since I was young. And I always balanced between two truths: « Is it only my brain who cleans himself or do I connect with something that is behind natural understanding? »

With the book I began to have lucid dreams. I was in some places where I knew I was dreaming and where there wasn't any difference between my dreams and my reality. This could be scary, but at the same time the dreams became more and more precise. Deeper and deeper. I had some analyzes of them who actually helped me in the time where I was awake. it pushed me to question me about my values and to think and feel higher. Afterwards it became important for me to share my feelings about my experiences. So I decided to make a personal interpretation of the book and create a musical concept that expresses my perception of the book. The books I read are a big part of a long road therapy that began four years ago. It was a cure that was healing myself. By myself I mean; My mental and physical health, the conceptions I have, my perceptions and my conditioning I mix a meditative vibe with some rave sounds and an extremely reverb over the voices. Spirituality is also digital and it can find its way inside the virtual web. I've always been a cyberpunk fan and an old techno rave dancer. it's clear for me now there is a reliable fact between the two worlds.

Every music can be really shamanic with the right intentions.

The visual was recreated in collaboration with the photographer and Artist Caroline Lemaire and the album was released on the label Homosensibilis

link: [The Second Attention](#)



This album was written directly after *The Second Attention* and serves as its second part. While the first album offers a bright and somewhat naïve vision of spiritual awakening, the second focuses on shadow work. The landscapes are more intense and aggressive, deeper, and less sensual. It leans towards a more industrial and techno sound.

In addition to continuing to draw inspiration from Carlos Castaneda's books, the concept comes from a reading of a speech by Omraam Mikhaël Aïvanhov, of the White Brotherhood. The theme is unification—meeting both the shadow and the light of one's identity to unite the opposites. He used the example of blood flow in the heart: oxygenated blood and deoxygenated blood work together to sustain the body's function from the heart.

Here, it's not so much about healing but rather acknowledging these landscapes and the patterns of one's own consciousness. Darkness, inherent to life, must be recognized and accepted in the process of existence.

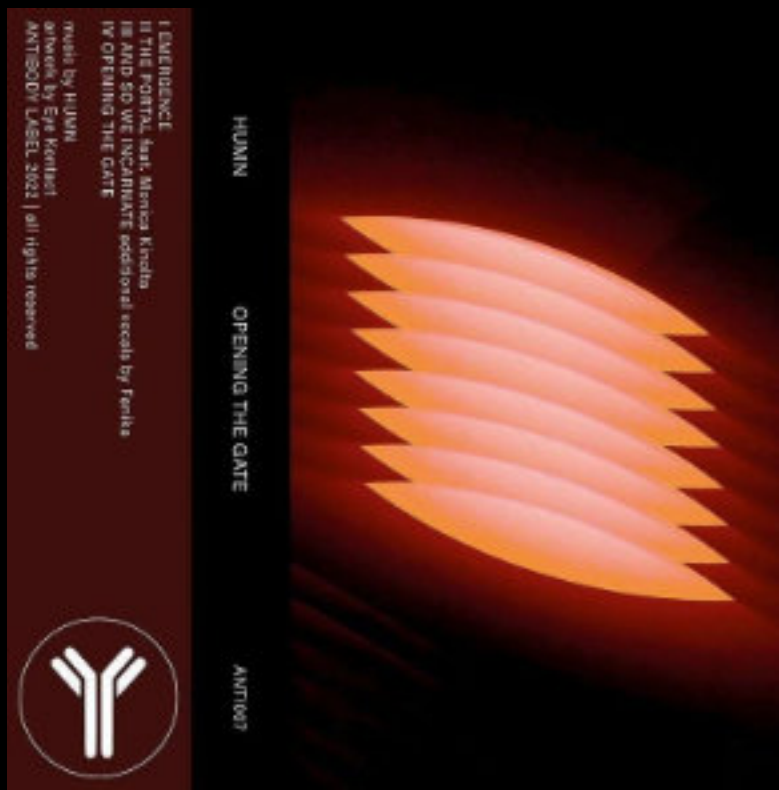
The album is conceived as a shamanic and psychedelic journey, taking us from one part of ourselves to another. It's a meeting. The resolution is luminous, as the shadow serves as a foundation for self-recognition and rediscovery. Like the lotus, as conceptualized in the album cover, which finds its roots in the swamp and blooms into a sublime flower on the surface.

The third lodge is therefore the one that lies beyond the black and the white, beyond good and evil—at the level of life and the divine.

This album emphasizes how the world is our medicine, leaning into both light and joy as well as suffering and loss. We heal our wounds by opening our eyes and finding our own medicine to cure ourselves. The journey from unconsciousness to consciousness is a long one.

The post-rave aspect is clearer here, and the tracks were composed with the idea of being played live. The cover was created in collaboration with 3D artist Ilyazel, and the album was released on Homosensibilis Records.

Link: [THE THIRD LODGE](#)



Opening the Gate:

"This project arises from a personal desire to find balance within chaos. Recorded and edited among unopened moving boxes in a new place I had just moved into, the music reverberated against the walls of a barely furnished room that didn't even have a ceiling at that time. Throughout the process, the questions running through my mind were: 'What is the purpose of our earthly incarnation?' 'What does it take to fully understand and embody our life path?' Perhaps it's about opening a gate to a greater, boundless world."

This album is very industrial and dark ambient; it's the most electronic of all. No lyrics, and very direct.

It speaks about the nothingness from which everything originates—the place where all life, all matter, begins to rise and exist. The sounds act as the demiurge, shaping the images and sensations we feel. Decay provides the soil for flowers to grow. Darkness is the landscape where light emerges. From nothing to something. The eternal cycle of life and death, where horror and beauty are intertwined.

For me, the story behind this album is the story of incarnation—a gestation and birth. In synchronicity, Fanika, who sings on "And So We Incarnate", was pregnant at the time of the album's release.

The album consists of four very intense tracks, featuring other voices, such as Monica Kinolta on "The Portal", and Fanika on "And So We Incarnate."

The cover was created by EYE KONTACT, and the album was released in cassette and digital formats on ANTIBODY LABEL.

[LINK: OPENING THE GATE](#)



The three covers above were created by myself. The intention behind these albums is to differentiate them from previous Humn projects.

I hesitated for a long time about using a different name for these projects. However, I enjoy keeping things ambiguous.

Piano Songs also represents my ongoing practice with the piano, which I continue to refine with each album.

Link

[Piano songs](#)
[From Samhain to Imbolc](#)
[Piano songs II: Portraits](#)

Piano songs:

This is a project developed over a long period, as I have always sung and played the piano. The theme here is to explore ballads and more classical piano songs. The aim is to connect with a more vulnerable part of myself, less concerned with self-promotion. It is about speaking more intimately about my daily experiences, my condition as a gay man and artist in 21st-century Brussels.

I navigate through melancholy and joy, dedicating several songs to my deceased hens, my dream-filled nights, my love stories, and sexual explorations. To trauma and family stories. The themes are diverse. Electronics support the piano and vocals, acting as a link in the stories told by the albums—personal stories that I don't necessarily narrate explicitly but leave implied. The goal is to offer something different, grounded in the body and emotions rather than in technique and concept.

Piano Songs (2021) focused on my connections with my grandmothers and also included a song about the breakup I was experiencing at that time.

From Samhain to Imbolc (2022) is an album about the path of winter introspection. It explores the shadows in its caverns to better emerge in spring. I consider it the true Piano Songs 1.

Piano Songs 2: Portraits (2024) is an ode to vulnerability, softness, sensuality, and childlike soul. Most of the tracks were written for my deceased hens during the winter of 2022.

Piano Songs 3 is on its way: intense, dark, and sexy. Partially written in French, it will be fully playable live on piano.



Alchemy (2024)

Alchemy is for me the final chapter that began with *The Second Attention* in 2020. While the previous work involved intense inner work with a focus on shadow in *The Third Lodge*, Alchemy serves as a conclusion, representing the transmutation of learned experiences. It's about turning things into gold like an alchemist. The idea was to create a luminous album filled with hope and gentle emotions.

It was written in parallel with my initiation into the Rose Path, where the aim is to create a space of love and acceptance for all aspects of oneself and others. The inspiration also comes from manga atmospheres, such as *Evangelion*, *Sailor Moon*, *xxxHolic*, and *Utena*.

The album is technically quite complex, with many layers and approaches. It also has a more pop-oriented approach to composition and vocals. The rhythms are sometimes more hip-hop, more deconstructed, and less industrial. The lyrics focus on joy, unity, love, sensuality, the sacred, and friendship.

The sacred and the spiritual serve this time the materiality of the real world.

This is the album that took the longest to write and master. For me, it definitively closes this approach to music developed over these three albums.

The cover and promotional videos were created by the artist Laurie-Anne Jaubert. It was released as a self-release in January 2024.

Link: [ALCHEMY](#)

Other projects:

Memoria Aeterna (parc de forest 2022)

morceau composé pour le Collectif de Louvain «Kneph» pour leur travail autour de «ma grand mère se souvient» a Bruxelles en 2022.

La semaine de performance en lien avec Park Poetic autours d'un Arbre qui se meurt dans le parc de forest a bruxelles a donné naissance entre une collaboration entre Kneph et différents artistes et praticien spirituel. J'ai écrit ce morceau avec mon ressentis de l'arbre, en lien avec une vidéos de leur réalisation.

Link: [X](#)

Aurore: 2021 dans les marais du Wiels (field rec et Harpe) (Le brass, 2022)

where the water had sprung up, the plant and animal fauna had flourished. Lola came to photograph the exhilarating energy of the dawn, when everything vibrates and awakens. I completed her work trying to make that energy myself, but through sound. the work was exhibited to BRASS this summer. First time I used the harp.

It appears as an installation, as you approach the photo, you can hear the song.

Link: [X](#)

«Whisperings of the Taxus Trees» (Elisabeth Park, 2024)

First work with the Collectif Barra Movement about the Taxus Trees in the Elisabeth Park. Those very particular trees have stories to tell and all together, with a bunch of artist we used our medium to give voice to them.

I create a song/ guided meditation:

he's the link: [X](#)

Barra movement website : [X](#)

Lyl Radio Residency (Brasserie Atlas 2023 - ...)

i've Been Invited By Lyl radio to be resident with them. It 's a good place for me to explore music from other artist and create narration through music, learn to use a new display and doing some collab and B2B with other Artists..

I explore classical music, noise, rythmed music, experimental, field recording and textural sounds from me and other artists. I create a story.

The name is «Faith In Being.»

Link: [X](#)

Sounds Meditation (2023 - ...)

I begin to compose meditation music for people to take a time to listen and enjoy. Every meditation is connected to a different energy as the throat chakra, the goddess Isis and the Yew trees for now. I'm planning to make more.

Link : [X](#)

Artiste

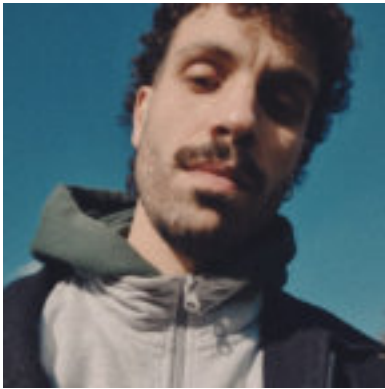
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Website:

[Instagram](#)

[Spotify](#)

[Soundcloud](#)

[Youtube](#)

[Bandcamp](#)

2019, Trip to India and development of meditation

2020, Release of the album The Second Attention (Brussels, Homosensibilis record)

2020, Release of the album The Third Lodge (Brussels, Homosensibilis record)

2020, The Third Lodge Amplified live streaming supported by Galerie Xeno exhibition on Matches Belgium (Brussels)

2021, Live streaming on Shaktistream called Aquarius Live (Shaktistream)

2021, Release of the album The Belonging (self-released)

2021, Live at Homographia Festival (Brussels)

2022, Release of the album Opening the Gate on cassette and digital with the label Antibody (Antibody record)

Collaboration with artist Monica Kinolta on the track The Portal and with Fanika on the track And So We Incarnate for the album Opening the Gate

2022, Opening the Gate Amplified live at Kastar Bar (Brussels)

2022, Live at Atelier 210 as part of the Fatsabbats Festival

2022, Live at Desingel in Antwerp

2022, Residency at Botanique for the final exam of ESRA Brussels students

2022, Sound creation around the Wiels marshlands in collaboration with Lola Jutz at «Le Brass»

2022, Release of 3 mixes The Art of Doing on Radioflouka in Paris

2022, Sound creation for the Park Poétik & Kneph event and release of the track Memoria Aeterna accompanied by a video by Theo de Roey

2023, Path of the Rose in Glastonbury

2023, Training in Anatomy and as a Pilates instructor

2023 - ..., Start of DJ residency at Lyl Radio Faith in Being

2023 - ..., Series of mixes on Kiosk Radio

2023, Live try-out in a duo with Laurie-Anne Jaubert for Cenote at Owl House

2024, Creation of a meditation circle

2024, DJ set at Fough Collective at Ateliers Momens

2024, Live at Karmen Camina, Strasbourg

2024, Release of the album Alchemy, with visuals by Laurie-Anne Jaubert

2024, HUMN joins the Barra Movement collective

2024, Circle of the Rose at Nex(us) Lab by Karolien Polienus in Brussels

2024, Whisperings of the Taxus Trees with Barra Movement, sound creation Yggdrasil