

Tape Ghost, Oakland

FULL BIO:

Oakland-based Tape Ghost, aka David Grunzweig, is an architect of emotional spaces. As both an ambient and techno producer, Tape Ghost's identity is grounded in a complementary duality. Whether producing under his primary moniker or working as one-half of the alias Night Sea, he's interested in creating music that can serve as a portal for contemplation and expression. Like a sun fading on the edge of the horizon, his productions are imbued with nuance, stillness and depth, captivating those who listen.

Inspired by Detroit masters like Carl Craig, Robert Hood and Plastikman, Tape Ghost was born as a minimal-leaning techno project in 2015 with a focus on live performance. Adept at curating both live sets and DJ sets, his presence has been felt in the Bay-Area, where he's thrown parties through the collective Asterisk and supported artists like Call Super, Dr. Rubenstein, Dax J, Mike Gervais, dBridge, and m50. His productions have found homes on several imprints including Ghunghru, Perfect Location Records, and Spontaneous Affinity. In 2016, Grunzweig adopted a second project, Night Sea: a dub-tinged, ambient techno outfit also based in Oakland. After performing live at Mutek San Francisco in 2018, the duo released their debut full-length on Silent Season in 2020.

What bridges Grunzweig's two projects is his purposeful approach to music, which, in his own words, aims to "open a channel for direct emotional connection" and induce trance-like experience. For Tape Ghost, sound can act as a mantra, resounding through the interiors of body and psyche. This philosophy is made manifest in the delicate, hypnotic, spacious attributes of his work. Perhaps the most distinct element of Tape Ghost's identity is the natural quality of his storytelling; his narratives flow with ease while remaining rooted in intention and precision. It's this apparent contradiction—the play between control and surrender—that produces organic, elegant results. Through thoughtful production and a growing body of work, Tape Ghost has emerged as a vital presence in the burgeoning landscape of electronic music.

SEMI-CONDENSED:

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