

# DAVID YOUNGS



## Transience

(ASANA) [www.davidyoungs.net](http://www.davidyoungs.net)



Ready. Take a deep breath. Press Play. Off you go...

A lot of artists' press blurbs talk about 'musical journeys', but in the case of David

Youngs' debut this really does seem the best way to think about this self-penned set of acoustic guitar instrumentals. Right from the opening '71210388', the percussive tapping and fluid jazzy runs, coupled with enticingly tricky time signatures, make this the aural equivalent of cycling the wrong way round Hyde Park Corner: crazy but absolutely exhilarating.

Weightless and busy as a balloon full of bees, this is a disc of virtuoso playing that somehow manages to avoid even the slightest whiff of showing off. It's technique in the service of a good time, with precise melodic flurries rooted deep in the body as well as the mind, nowhere more so than on the funky, driving 'Technomantra'.

Though trying to define Youngs' sound is a fruitless activity, I'm reminded of some of Michael Hedges' tongue-in-cheek shots at self-categorisation, most particularly 'new edge': Youngs' compositions are plumped full of depth and atmosphere, but you sure as hell aren't going to use them to soundtrack meditation.

*Oz Hardwick*