



# Album Review

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## Silent Transition

Flame Dream

#801 Switzerland

Flame Dream's seventh album, "Silent Transition," marks a remarkable comeback for the Swiss symphonic prog band after a 38-year hiatus. With six tracks spanning 62 minutes, it's loaded with melodic prog, a perfect fit here at Prog Radio. The album showcases the band's seasoned musicianship and thoughtful compositions.

For many years, the band had been asked about re-releasing their previous albums, which were difficult to find and not available on streaming services. They felt the challenge to develop the project musically in an intriguing way that would create interest all these years later. Beginning in spring 2022, the band prepared new compositions and recordings, and by 2023, they were deeply immersed in creating this new project. "Silent Transition" features long-form tracks with extended instrumental passages, coherent lyrics, and a distinct sound that reflects the band's extensive musical experience and cultural influences.



**After 38 years, Flame Dream has created one of the best albums this year, and their best work yet. "Silent Transition" is a tribute to their enduring passion for music and their ability to evolve while staying true to their roots.**

The album reflects on contemporary themes, delving into the passage of time, loneliness in the digital age, global polarization, and the loss of biodiversity. These themes are intricately woven into the music, creating a cohesive narrative.

The band includes the four original members: Peter "Pit" Furrer (drums, percussion), Urs Hochuli (bass), Roland Ruckstuhl (piano, organ, keyboards, percussion), and Peter Wolf (vocals, flute, saxophones). To add a new dimension to the band's sound, they also included the brilliant guitarist Alex Hutchings. His guitar parts are integral to their current sound, fitting seamlessly into the complex arrangements. Tracks like "Silent Transition," with its special guitar riff, and "Velvet

Clouds," which evokes a sense of magic, highlight his contributions.

The instrumental "Signal on the Shores" and the final track "Winding Paths" showcase Flame Dream's ability to craft melodic, intricate, and emotionally engaging music. The album also draws connections to their earlier works, such as "A Poem of Dancing" from "Elements" and "Paradise Lost" from "Supervision," creating a bridge between their past and present.

After 38 years, Flame Dream has created one of the best albums this year, and their best work yet. "Silent Transition" is a tribute to their enduring passion for music and their ability to evolve while staying true to their roots. This album is a must-listen for fans of symphonic prog and anyone looking to explore the depths of progressive rock. It's a strong return that, I hope, suggests there is still more to come from this talented band. Do NOT make us wait another 38 years!

Tune in to Prog Radio to hear much of this outstanding album in our new music rotation, and of course, to be featured in Monday's "What's New Proggy Cats?" broadcast.

5 Stars!

**Released:** May 22, 2024

[Full Review](#)

**Run Time:** 1 hr 2 min

**Highlights:** Winding Paths • Silent Transition • Velvet Clouds • Signal on the Shores

**Reviewer:** Kevin Carmony

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