

## Luke Howard - Forgotten Postcards (2016)

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Piątek, 02 Listopad 2018 15:29 -

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Combining elements of chamber music and ambient electronica into his tranquil creations, Luke Howard has earned credits as a pianist, film scorer, and producer in addition to recording his own modern compositions. He worked as an assistant to experimentalists like Nico Muhly, Ben Frost, and Valgeir Sigurðsson while establishing himself as a composer and instrumentalist. The Australian made his Montreux Jazz Festival competition debut in 2001 and began to find work scoring film shorts, television, games, and theater in the late 2000s. He debuted the Luke Howard Trio with Jonathan Zion and Daniel Farrugia on 2010's *The Meadowlands*, and was nominated for the Australian Music Prize in 2013 for his own *Sun, Cloud*.

Howard studied classical piano from an early age and went on to graduate from the University of Melbourne's Victorian College of the Arts. In the early 2000s, he was a two-time finalist in the Montreux Jazz Festival Solo Piano Competition. In the meantime playing piano on recordings by artists including Glenn Cannon, Slava Grigoryan, and Don Banks, he composed music for the 2009 documentary *Children of the Eclipse*, leading to further assignments in television, film, games, and theater. In 2010, he made his recording debut as bandleader on *The Meadowlands* by the Luke Howard Trio, which also included bassist Jonathan Zion and drummer Daniel Farrugia. A year later, *Open Road* was a collaborative album with bassist Janos Bruneel. Back in the scoring realm, Howard was an assistant to Ben Frost on his score for the 2011 online game *World of Darkness* (based on the Andrei Tarkovsky film *Solaris*). The following year, he assisted Nico Muhly on his album *Drones* and Valgeir Sigurðsson on *Architecture of Loss*.

After signing with U.K. label Mercury KX, the year 2013 brought two releases by Howard: the solo LP *Sun, Cloud* and the trio album *A Dove, a Lion, a Coast, a Pirate*. *Sun, Cloud* earned him

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a nomination for the Australian Music Prize. It was followed by a remix album titled Night, Cloud in 2014, which also saw the release of Two & One. His score to that year's Where Do Lilacs Come From won Best Music for a Short Film at the 2014 APRA/AMCOS Screen Music Awards. A collaboration with trumpeter Nadjé Noordhuis, Ten Sails followed in 2015, and in 2016 Howard released the full-length Two Places via Mercury KX and two solo piano EPs, Forgotten Postcards and Eighty-Eight Days, on 1631 Recordings. The Luke Howard Trio album The Electric Night Descends also arrived in 2016. He returned with Open Heart Story for piano, string orchestra, and electronics in 2018. ---Marcy Donelson, allmusic.com

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