

Artist:

**12TWELVE**

Title:

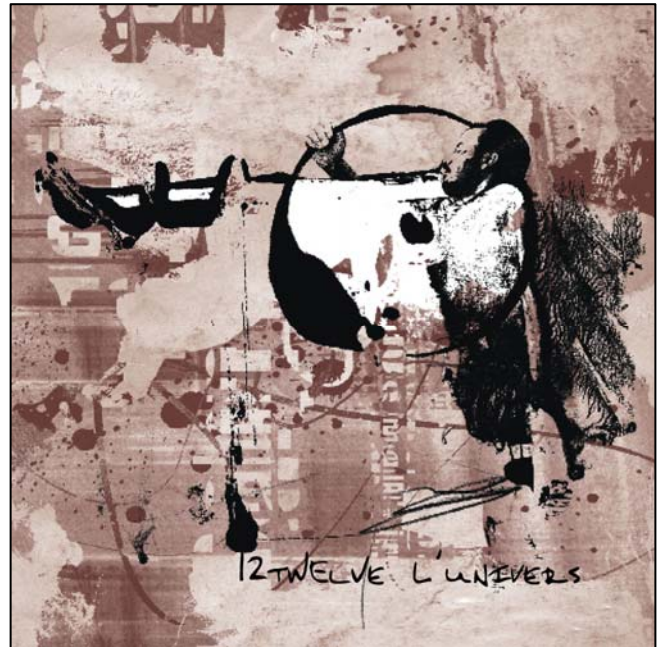
**L'UNIVERS**

Format: CD-album (16 tracks)

Label: ACUARELA

Catalog #: **nois1060**

UPC: **8426946902734**



If one band has shown restlessness and breadth of perspective in Spain's independent scene it is 12twelve. This quartet from Barcelona featuring Jaume L. Pantaleon (guitar) Jens Neumaier (keyboards, effects and saxophone) Jose Rosselló (drums) and Javier Garcia (bass) has known how to make firm headway through the sometimes marshy terrain which experimental rock can be, making bold decisions and innovating without losing their bearings in order to create when other outfits would merely sound complex and pretentious. 12twelve first appeared on the scene when they recorded a demo with Beef front man David Rodriguez in 1998. A subsequent electrifying live performance offered an abrasive whiplash of untamed polymorphous instrumental rock, managing both to sink to the depths of uncontrolled distortion and float on wisps of free-jazz. Needless to say, the gig landed them their first signing, with Spanish label BOA, which produced the powerful, complete and sumptuously designed debut *Tears, Complaints and Spaces* in 2001. Without resting on the laurels of the fantastic reception for their first album, 12twelve set to work on the shared CD *Doppler* with Ya Te Digo which was published in 2003. With the prize money from their dazzling winning performance at the prestigious Villa de Bilbao talent competition, they paid for a recording session with the master of the hardest mixes on the planet Steve Albini. The ex-Big Black member and sound engineer for Nirvana, The Pixies and PJ Harvey made sure that *Speritismo* (BOA, 2003) sounded as robust in the studio as the group did on stage. Nevertheless, 12twelve's immaculate track record doesn't stop them from finding new forms of expression, such as the world tour which Jaume and Jose set out on together with SOLE, the brilliant head MC of the Anticon collective.

Three years after their last offering and with Albini back at the controls, *L'Univers* marks the definitive consecration of the band, leaving behind scenes, labels (independent or otherwise), influences and clichés. In this work, riddled with rhythmic escapades, excentric melodies and an inquisitive spirit, 12twelve show us the four points of a musical compass shared with artists like Sun Ra, Lalo Schifrin, The United States of America or the Chicago Art Ensemble. We are faced with a work which takes its origins as much from jazz improvisation in the 30's as from the funk and Krautrock of the 70's to appear in 2006 with 16 pieces to be enjoyed sitting down, shaking your head or lost in a sea of sensations and emotions of all shapes and sizes. *L'Univers* encompasses many sounds, traditions and melodies which seem to come from Cuba, New York, Berlin or even Barcelona, a captain's log with an unknown, timeless star date. Maybe 12twelve have made a work so free —perhaps equal to what Disco Inferno's *DI Go POP* meant for the moribund post rock scene?— that they can consider as many interpretations as possible, not only from the listener, but also from taking the work to the stage. White music, black music, dark music, bright music, this is *L'Univers*, a universe which expands slowly, but continuously.

Official website: [www.12twelve.net](http://www.12twelve.net)

TRACKLIST:

1. Mr. Gesus / 2. La habitación de Albert / 3. Professor Alí / 4. 9è 4º / 5. Il monstro / 6. La modelo / 7. Yotuel / 8. R2 chapa / 9. Com senyors / 10. Intonarumori / 11. Ciencia para todos los públicos / 12. Ruidos pour ondes Martinot et Orchestre / 13. 3001 / 14. Autobahn Polizei / 15. Gitanita / Extra: L'Univers



Acuarela  
P.O.Box 18136  
28080 Madrid  
[www.acuareladiscos.com](http://www.acuareladiscos.com)

Press & Media: [intpromo@acuareladiscos.com](mailto:intpromo@acuareladiscos.com)  
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