Band Members:
Sergei Czerewko: jensen custom 5 string violin
Butch Karn: bass
Jim McFarlen: guitar, guitar synthesizer, airsynth, ebow, percussion
Steve Rose: drums, percussion, tapes, assorted sounds
Pat Ross: percussion, drums, trumpet, slide whistle, penny whistle, vocals

INTENSITY! is known for improvising its compositions. Our goal is to find balance in the emotions and energies that make this an enjoyable and rewarding experience. No two shows are ever alike and this creates some issues. People like to support musicians by purchasing their CDs. While we have recorded our sessions for years at La Cueva de La Rosa, the basement of Steve’s house where the band originated and gelled, we didn’t know how to translate that magic to a studio. For the first two records; we leap from our music room to a strange place, ante’d up and tried to find a sweet spot amid all of the unknowns. For the four hours or so of music that it took to assemble tracks suitable for each release, we were very pleased. However, our best music has always come from the basement in the form of those twenty-eight minute jams that fill a cassette running at double speed. In this refuge, we are the ‘projektornists’… ionizing and igniting the air.

Man Must Xplore is about departures. Comprised of relatively short songs (ten tracks clocking in at around forty four minutes); the tracks for this release were recorded live in our rehearsal space where we have gathered for almost ten years. While the songs are snapshots, we hope the CD serves as an album of ideas brought to the listener through shorter and more direct pieces of music.

Our four-track tapes were transferred to computer at Ruby Media Services, where we added vocals and ear candy. Dave Ruby is the virtual sixth member of INTENSITY! and he has had a prominent role in shaping all of INTENSITY!’s releases. His guidance, musicianship, and production skills are evident throughout this release. Regarding ‘ear candy and remixes’; though not an original idea, there were occasions when portions from one piece of music were mixed with portions from another recording to produce a unique third track (e.g. The Mobius Strip). In spite of the resources at hand, we have tried to maintain an insightful and measured approach to using this bountiful technology.

We hope you enjoy listening to this recording as much as we enjoyed creating it.
-Jim McFarlen

Acknowledgments:
Jim thanks Roger and Billie for the guitar; Gary, Sandy, Diane, Derek, and Rhonda for their love and support; Big hugs for Terry and Mia, Alan M, Eddie, Jen, Big Dave, Alan O., Sam, Mark H., Graeme, Tom, Phil, Paul, Mark R., and Chuck. Thanks to Bill Nelson and all the other musicians for making a big impression on my life as an artist. And of course a big thanks to my bandmates "we are swine and we are pearls". Sergei thanks: Nick Shaz, for the countless numbers of times he was there to haul equipment, set-up a gig, and ensure all players had a ride to the venue in his truck.

Butch thanks: My wife Pedie for having the patience and an understanding of my passion. I would also like to thank my dear friend Dave Ruby for putting the puzzle together. And last but not least: Steve, Jim, Sergie, and Pat for providing me with the inspiration needed to fly by the seat of my pants.

Steve thanks: Karen, MidCoast Fine Arts, Joe & Paul from Katalina, our trusty Yamaha 4-track and the everlasting spirit of our friend, Joel Dick.


We would all like to thank the artists who provided the superb graphic design for this CD. Dave Rose for whom all of our art and artistic endeavors. We show after show, providing moral support. A big shout out goes to Devan Hansen at隶属 Cines Brew and View, Dean Schorder and everyone at MidCoast Fine Arts, the band of Blowfish, the Asphalt Jukebox, and the Illinois Art Board for their support. And most importantly, you… the listener.

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Recorded by INTENSITY! at La Cueva de La Rosa, Moline IL. Additional creative input and editing by Dave Ruby at Ruby Media Services, Silvis IL.

Mixed and produced by INTENSITY! and Dave Ruby.

Contributing Artists: David Hunt, Huaie Walker, Nate Perly, and Cory Jackson.

In memory of Steve Gustafson who had made the journey first and now saves a place for us all.