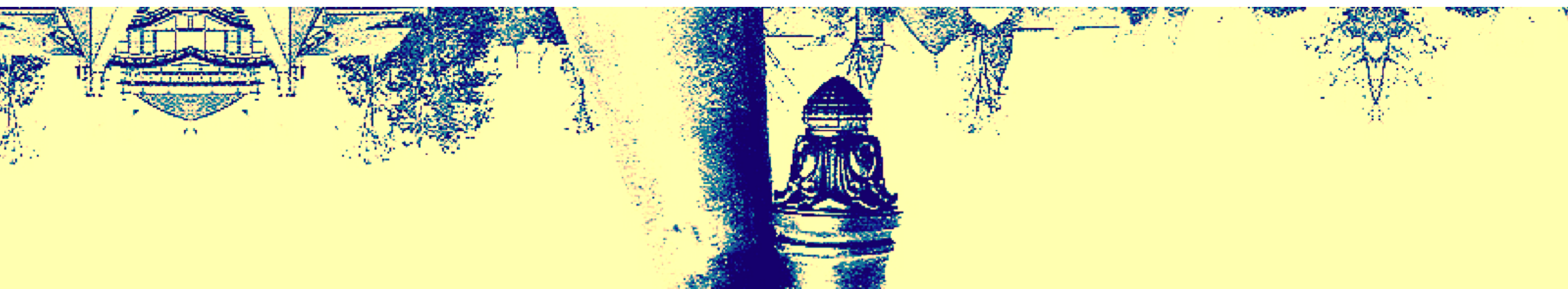




# DIETRICH STRAUSE & THE BLUE RIBBONS





**AFFAIR AT THE 58TH FLOOR**  
**ANCIENT RITE**  
**THE WATER'S EDGE**  
**ALL THE CREATURES**  
**CORONATION OF A QUEEN**  
**PHILADELPHIA**  
**WALKING THE WATERS**

Produced by Dietrich Strause & The Blue Ribbons  
Recorded by Sam Kassirer at Great North Sound Society  
Mixed & mastered by Paul Q. Kolderie

Dietrich Strause (acoustic guitar & vocals)  
The Blue Ribbons are James Rohr (keys), Mike Castellana (guitar, pedal steel guitar)  
Tauras Biskis (drums), & Jef Charland (bass)

All songs by Dietrich Strause (BMI) 2017  
Ancient Rite inspired by "Spark Panther by Genna Rose Nethercott





## **AFFAIR AT THE 58TH FLOOR**

Lights went down on the 58th floor he saw flames he heard the bells  
She stood inside the golden door in a robe and garter belt

The Harbor Girl the statue-ess the crowned colossal dream  
She danced herself to breathlessness in the glow of his plasma screen

He closed his eyes he dreamt the night of the pomp and pageantry  
Of the huddled mess the shackled light of yearning to be pleased

She placed her hand upon her breast astride the conquered limb  
for hope and truth and righteousness she sang the Battle Hymn

The Exile Mother tempest tossed the lady unfulfilled  
with silent lips she whispered soft "I don't love you and never will"

James Rohr (clavinet), Mike Castellana (electric guitar), Jef Charland (electric bass),  
Tauras Biskis (drums), Dietrich Strause (acoustic guitar, vocals)





## ANCIENT RITE

Out tonight on an ancient rite past the windblown timberline  
the belly and teeth, the paws of the beast, run swift, his heart behind  
In a lightening strike, flash of light, the wool taken from the fold  
by horn, by haste, the prey laid waste, for the hunger we all behold  
he waits over her, his heart returns, weeps for the flesh it tore  
now the heartfelt beast mourns the feast of its prey upon the forest floor

Out tonight on an ancient rite in the shelter of the trees  
you took my hand to the burning strand the timber fell at our knees  
on a night well worn, the cry of a storm, the moan of a love once fled  
your windblown eyes I was beneath your thighs pressed upon the forest bed

Out tonight on an ancient rite so swift, wild, free  
the heat in your breath, the beat in my chest, just now catching up with me

James Rohr (piano), Mike Castellana (electric guitar), Jef Charland (electric bass),  
Tauras Biskis (drums), Dietrich Strause (acoustic guitar, vocals)





## THE WATER'S EDGE

I drew a line in the sand to let my heart beat as it can  
to prove, to pledge, that love don't stop at the water's edge

You drew a line in the sand to let your heart beat as it can  
to be true, to be brave, as steady grows a wild bouquet

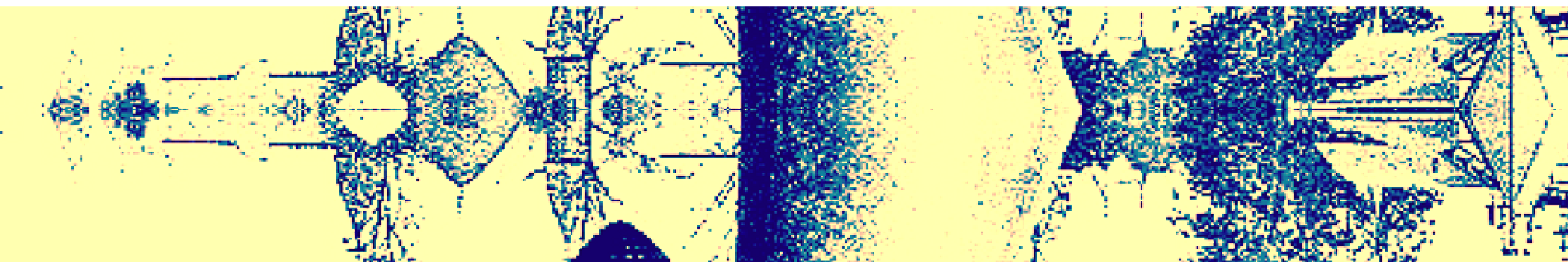
Through fire and field, on windblown hills, across the ocean floor  
I've come to see that all between's a drop and nothing more

Let's draw lines in the sand to let every heart beat as it can  
to be free to be still, to love themselves and who they will

To be arms made open to every broken wreck on the shore  
To be eyes to the teary, waves for the weary in swift and joyful storms

Let's lay in the sand, take my heart and take my hand  
we'll draw one breath, it's all we have, it's all that's left  
swim east, swim west, love don't stop at the water's edge

James Rohr (wurlitzer, organ), Mike Castellana (electric guitar), Jef Charland (electric bass),  
Tauras Biskis (drums), Dietrich Strause (acoustic guitar, vocals)





## ALL THE CREATURES

The day before time was born nothing was peace and quiet  
the holy tune shot the moon the heavens began to riot  
in a pillar of ash and a thunder crash the sun and stars would rise  
and all the creatures in all creation dreamt of walking upright

The desert burned the forest turned to highways deep and wide  
the tempest grew and wicked bloomed and watched the water's rise  
drowning in the sand and wind were the starving sick and stray  
and all the creatures in all creation never dreamt it'd be this way

From the waters we've waded, the fires we faded our flooded hearts run dry  
in cries that wake the dreams that break us each morning when we rise  
and I lay my head I dream and wonder, naked as all the rest  
for all the creatures in all creation, I wonder if I'm doing my best

James Rohr (piano), Mike Castellana (electric guitar), Jef Charland (upright bass),  
Tauras Biskis (drums), Dietrich Strause (acoustic guitar, vocals)





## CORONATION OF A QUEEN

The King came home today, his ships rolled in the flags were raised  
trumpets played from the shore, the fanfare of his wayward war  
The rusted line his cavalcade, at the city walls the banners waved  
women lined the avenue, throwing ribbons at their boots  
One by one soldiers charmed, traded in their coats and arms  
the dress is torn the battle lost, kiss the ring with fingers crossed  
Alone he reached the castle grounds, at the gate his horse laid down  
the garden path now overgrown, his faithless mind was overthrown  
By fallen jewels from his crown, his sovereign will that often bowed  
to younger hearts on distant shores, the fairer conquests of his sword  
Through the halls the echoes led, an empty chamber, empty bed  
and when he sat upon his throne, he felt her dagger at his throat

James Rohr (piano), Mike Castellana (electric guitar), Jef Charland (electric bass),  
Tauras Biskis (drums), Dietrich Strause (acoustic guitar, vocals)





## PHILADELPHIA

Born into summer, raised on salt in the waves down the shore  
My sandy eyed sweet heart, we'd drive for hours or more  
At night we'd cross the river, where the boys and girls would play  
Where I lost the only one I loved in Philadelphia

Strung out on the avenue with the lonely, sick, and starved  
in the South Street, city lights, we'd walk arm in arm  
She slipped free in a moment, in a moment all was changed  
When I lost the only one I loved in Philadelphia

A shot and shattered window the sirens bleeding through  
I held my breath a-runnin' I followed the boys in blue  
I fell down to my knees on the street over where she lay  
Where I lost the only one I loved in Philadelphia

James Rohr (piano), Mike Castellana (electric guitar), Jef Charland (electric bass),  
Tauras Biskis (drums), Dietrich Strause (acoustic guitar, vocals)





## **WALKING THE WATERS**

Washed ashore in the rising sun, dressed in lace and ribbons and bows  
Even just for the day she was, the light of the Ohio  
On the banks under stars I lay, in my mind I'm off to see  
if that blue eyed wild bouquet, if she still thinks of me

Listen to the waves roll, see the light shine  
I'm a son of god's daughters walking the waters, to her tonight

Have the garden and have the fold, dream the dreams, have the fame  
and all the silver and all the gold, take my fortune, take my name  
all my feathers and wings, the deepest breath from in my lungs  
and all the songs I would ever sing, take my hands, take my tongue  
all my fur and fleece, all the blood this heart could shed  
for I'm a creature made whole, made free, held in her arms again

Mike Castellana (electric guitar, pedal steel), Jef Charland (upright bass),  
Tauras Biskis (drums), Dietrich Strause (acoustic guitar, vocals)





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