

S I M O N P H I L L I P S

Featuring

ANDY TIMMONS

STEVE WEINGART

ERNEST TIBBS

protocol

Wildfire 7:24

Phillips

Pants Party Publishing

Soothsayer 8:56

Phillips/Weingart/Timmons/Tibbs

Pants Party Publishing/Skeewa Music/Timstone Music/ET4Strings Music

Gemini 7:51

Phillips

Pants Party Publishing

Moments Of Fortune 8:11

Phillips/Timmons

Pants Party Publishing/Timstone Music

Upside In Downside Up 6:56

Phillips/Weingart/Timmons/Tibbs

Pants Party Publishing/Skeewa Music/Timstone Music/ET4Strings Music

First Orbit 6:34

Phillips/Weingart

Pants Party Publishing/Skeewa Music

Octopia 3:41

Phillips/Weingart

Pants Party Publishing/Skeewa Music

Enigma 9:17

Phillips/Weingart/Timmons

Pants Party Publishing/Skeewa Music/Timstone Music

Recorded at Phantom Recordings, Jan/Feb 2013

Engineered & mixed by Simon Phillips

Asst. Engineers: Matt Forsyth / Billie Rainbird / Sadaharu Yagii

Mastered by Chris Muth

Package Design by Lou Spirito

Photography by Billie Rainbird and Lou Spirito





Credits & Thanks:

Simon thanks:

Tama Drums, Zildjian Cymbals, Remo Heads, Pro Mark Sticks, Shure Microphones & Headphones, XL Cases

Matt Forsyth and Sadaharu Yagi

Special thanks to Billie for her amazing support, inspiration, enthusiasm and guidance throughout this whole project. You are beautiful and you are the love of my life!!!

Andy Thanks:

Ibanez, Mesa Boogie, Dimarzio, D'Addario, Dunlop, Xotic, Carl Martin, and GNI

Alex and Monica, my love and light!

Special thanks to Simon, Billie, Steve, Ernest and Matt Forsyth for such an inspiring week of sessions! I had a blast!

Steve Thanks:

'Clavia' Nord Keyboards, Bryan Lancer at 'Muse Research', Nir Benjaminy at 'Fender Rhodes LA', and his wife, Renee, for more than can be put into words!

Ernest thanks:

Yamaha Basses & D'Addario Strings



It has been 14 years since the release of my last project, "**Vantage Point**", and finally it seemed to me to be the right time to record something new. I had been writing and recording some material over the last few years but was not excited enough with the outcome. I wanted to do something very live and organic so as the NAMM show was coming up in January I was hoping that perhaps **Andy Timmons** would be attending. I called him and put my idea to him and he was way up for it and changed his plans to stay in LA a few more days. My next call was to **Steve Weingart** as, having worked with him on his last two solo CDs, I had formed a wonderful working relationship with him. He was also very excited by the project. Next was the question of who should take the seat of holding down those low notes. I had heard a lot about **Ernest Tibbs** and had spoken to him a few years earlier about some live shows, which he could not make. I gave him a call and he was also way up for it.

So I booked time at **Phantom Recordings** – a week after the NAMM show – to see what we could do!!

I had a bunch of demos ranging from ideas to complete compositions that I was not totally sure they were the direction I wanted to go in so I compiled those and sent MP3s to Andy, Steve and Ernest. My concept was that we would write in the studio and if any parts of these tunes worked we could use them.

I was curious and eager to get playing to see how the chemistry of the four of us would work. The first tune we recorded was "**Moments of Fortune**" and I knew immediately this was a

great band – great chemistry – a deep pocket and a relentless supply of musicality!!

As it turned out most of the compositions were usable and only a few sections were omitted. We arranged the tunes on the fly and everyone contributed and it made for some very organic and vibe-y music. The days were long and tiring but the energy and creativity were amazing. We played live and only a few repairs, punches and overdubs were done.

As we were recording this felt to me as though the Protocol concept was coming full circle and it was also 25 years since I released my first solo effort so it seemed perfect to be titled "**Protocol II**".

This project was a joy to work on and I want to thank Andy, Steve and Ernest for their wonderful energy, groove and improvisation captured on this recording.

I hope you, the listener, feel the same way!!

SP

For the tech heads:

Protocol II was recorded to Avid Pro Tools HDX at 96khz sample rate using Prism and Avid HD converters. The drums were recorded through a Neve 8068 console, the Fender Rhodes through Grace 801 mic-pres, the Bass and Guitar recorded using both Grace 801 and Neve channels.

Mixing was done "in the box" monitoring through Dangerous Music ST system and B&W 801 Matrix speakers.

I. **WILDFIRE** 7:24 II. **SOOTHSAYER** 8:56 III. **GEMINI** 7:51
IV. **MOMENTS OF FORTUNE** 8:11 V. **UPSIDE IN DOWNSIDE UP** 6:56 VI. **FIRST ORBIT** 6:34
VII. **OCTOPIA** 3:41 VIII. **ENIGMA** 9:17

Produced by **Simon Phillips**

www.simon-phillips.com



Simon Phillips
Drums



Andy Timmons
Guitars



Steve Weingart
Keyboards



Ernest Tibbs
Bass

inakustik

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Phantom
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