

## **GEPR (Fred Trafton)**

If I had any doubt that Sky Architect were fans of The Flower Kings after hearing this album, this web page would be pretty convincing proof. However, though I could easily say, "If you like The Flower Kings, you'll like Sky Architect", these youngsters from Sweden remind me of other bands as well. They remind me frequently of Overhead and Qoph for their combination of '70's Beatles-like psychedelia but with "proggier" overtones than the Fab 4 ever really tried for. So, I've now compared them to 3 other bands ... two of them are also Swedish and one is Finnish. Am I implying here that there's some sort of "Scandanavian psych sound" that all these bands espouse? Well, I wouldn't have thought so before writing this little article, but maybe there is.

But in spite of the above comparisons, Sky Architect has a very fresh and appealing sound if you like this sort of thing ... which I must, since Excavations of the Mind has been on my player way too much in the past few weeks. It appears to be something of a concept album, though beyond dealing with "friendly paranoia" and "walls of eyes" (or is it "walls of ice"? ... the slight Dutch accent in the English lyrics makes this debatable), I'm not really sure what it's about. Something about insanity? Well, whatever these guys are excavating in their minds, I hope they haven't mined out this vein of musical ideas ... because I'm really hoping to hear more from these guys. Excellent debut album! Available for download from Mindawn (see and links above) or on hard media from Galileo Records or Progrock Records (see links below), who both have distribution rights.

For those keeping score, the album cover is by Mark Wilkinson of Marillion / Fish album cover fame.