

The Tapeworm presents...

# THE PATHFINDERS



## imagine something yesterday

**Experimental analogue electronic recordings  
resurface after almost forty years.**

**Digital release by The Tapeworm** — 9 April 2021

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First available on cassette in 2020, 127 copies (sold out)

Available on cassette in a 'black' signed edition of 53 copies — 13 April 2021

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Recorded by The Pathfinders — Roger Cleghorn and Malcolm Garrett — 'Imagine Something Yesterday' is a compendium of playful explorations with analogue synthesisers and distorted found sounds.

Former art and design students at Manchester Polytechnic, The Pathfinders were sharing a flat together when Malcolm was establishing his graphic design studio, Assorted iMaGes, on London's Tottenham Court Road and Roger was studying for a Fine Art MA at Chelsea School of Art.

These experiments from the 15th floor of a tower block in the Isle of Dogs in London were captured directly on a reel-to-reel tape recorder over a period of a few months at the tail end of 1980 and the beginning of 1981. Further embellishments were made at Chelsea School of Art.

The equipment used included Yamaha CS-10, ARP Axxe, EMS VCS3, TEAC A-3340, Bang & Olufsen Beogram 1202 and Beolab 1700.

Listeners may identify the aural influence of electronic pioneers such as Cluster, Tangerine Dream, Cabaret Voltaire or Throbbing Gristle as these were some of the musicians whose records were frequently played at home by The Pathfinders around that time.

With almost 40 years having elapsed since recording, memories are sketchy with regard to who made what noise where, but everything ended up compiled onto a couple of cassette tapes, where they have languished ever since — the master reel-to-reel tapes seemingly lost forever. 'Imagine Something Yesterday' has almost all of the surviving recordings. A tantalising additional 14 minutes of sound remains, the full running time being just too long for comfortable release on one cassette.

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**The Pathfinders remain  
Roger Cleghorn and Malcolm Garrett.**

### Roger Cleghorn

Roger Cleghorn bought his first synthesiser in 1978 after having seen The Human League at the Russell Club in Manchester. He moved to London to study for his Master's degree in 1979 and began experimenting with sound painting — using synthesisers to generate wave forms that were then combined, colourised and edited together. This work naturally led to the creation of The Pathfinders and the subsequent recordings which became 'Imagine Something Yesterday'. An award-winning designer and account director, Roger continues to work in the design industry having been taught his trade by Malcolm while working at the nascent Assorted iMaGes.

### Malcolm Garrett

By 1980 Malcolm Garrett was already making a mark in an evolving music industry. He was one of a number of innovative graphic designers coming to prominence, having designed ground-breaking record sleeves for Buzzcocks, Magazine, John Foxx and many others. In 1981 he was commissioned by Kasper de Graaf (later to become his creative partner at Assorted iMaGes) to be the Art Director of youth culture magazine New Sounds New Styles. This was a pivotal year for Malcolm as his Assorted iMaGes design studio expanded to accommodate working with a number of emerging bands such as Duran Duran, Simple Minds, Culture Club and The Human League.

Malcolm has since enjoyed a highly successful career in communication design, with pioneering work for digital and interactive platforms. In 2000 he became the first Royal Designer (RDI) in multimedia design, and in 2020 was awarded an MBE for 'services to design'. Still working with partner Kasper, and with a small Manchester-based team, he is founder and Artistic Director of the annual Design Manchester festival.

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'Black' edition available from:

[the-pathfinders.bandcamp.com/album/imagine-something-yesterday](https://the-pathfinders.bandcamp.com/album/imagine-something-yesterday)

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[www.tapeworm.org.uk](http://www.tapeworm.org.uk)

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The Pathfinders logotype by Malcolm Garrett (after DRU).

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