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PRESS RELEASE

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FOURCOLOR | LETTER OF SOUNDS

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Following the release of his work as part of the electro-acoustic quartet Minamo on 12k (12k1031, 2005) and the proto-pop outing under his new moniker Filfla (Plop, 2005), Fourcolor (Keiichi Sugimoto) is back with his second release on 12k, *Letter of Sounds*. His previous work, *Air Curtain* (12k1029) was a critical success selling out the first pressing in little over one month.

On *Air Curtain*, Fourcolor explored new directions, building upon delicate, implied rhythmic structures moving away from the strictly drone based material on his debut cd *Water Mirror* (Apestaartje, 2004). With *Letter of Sounds* Sugimoto pushes his sound even further by bringing the rhythms more to the foreground and taking influences from his previous, more pop-based work, as Filfla. The album uses many dominant rhythmic structures such as on the opener "02" which couples catchy guitar harmonic hooks with sliced melodic beats or the beautiful "Rowboat" in which Sugimoto collaborates with long-time friend Naoko Sasaki/Piana (Happy) using a variety of instrumentation and vocals. Similarly, a majority of the work on *Letter of Sounds* finds itself working around tight, syncopated micro-rhythms.

Of course *Letter of Sounds* is not without its delicate undercurrents and warm, stretched-out, wispy tones that have become signature to Sugimoto's sound (the gorgeous finale "Frame"), but his desire for a more up-front and structured approach continues the evolution from a style he has mastered into new, more challenging territory, and expands his palette as an artist.

* packaging note: as Fourcolor's cd *Air Curtain* (12k1029, 2004) was the commercial introduction of the revised 12k logo, *Letter of Sounds* launches a new, more streamlined digipack design in celebration of 12k's upcoming 10-year anniversary. In addition to the changes in layout the new digipacks feature a matte varnish which allows for richer colors and sharper lines than the previous digipacks.

PRAISE FOR AIR CURTAIN + WATER MIRROR

[CLONE, ES]

Fourcolor is the solor project of Keiichi Sugimoto. fifty percent of Fonica and fourth part of Minamo. Like in those other two projects, the music of Fourcolor is cradled in processed guitars guitars that break and sustain, and overflow in microsounds and tones. contruyendo ambient of many carats and emotion to skin flower.

On both discs where Fourcolor it makes debut, Water Mirror is the one that dedicates to the water. the guitars drones here that are superimposed in swelling, and on those drones that are sprinkling and drawing concentric waves, timid vibrations in the slow surface, and that acquire poetic dyes for the long final suite, a "Steam" where the guitars are let caress by recordings of field captured in alquin infantile park. In the same wake, but this time dedicated to the air, Air Curtain it contains seven capricious and volatilessubjects but, that interlace other instruments between the lines of guitar. Two magic and complementary discs, pure gentleness.