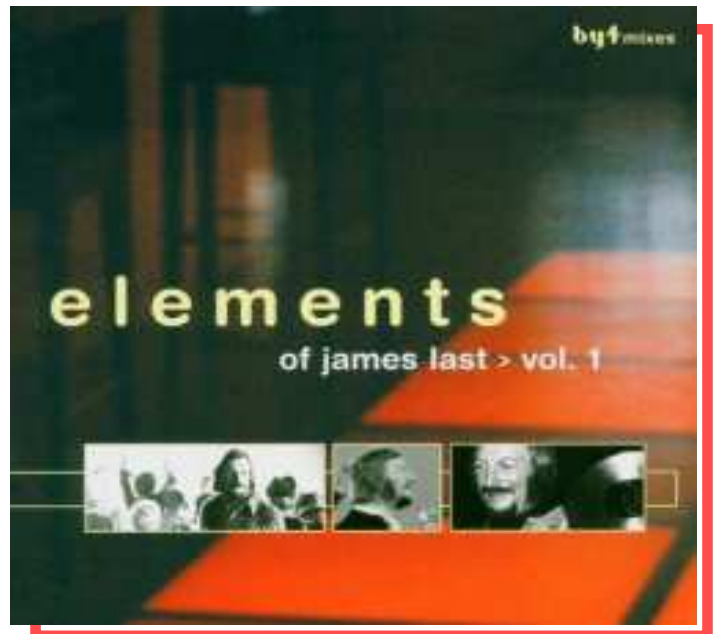


1309. FOOL

Backgrounds of S. Radic

"Elements" is a new-old James Last album from 2004, with a special originality. Originally intended as a gift for James Last's 75th birthday, the project grew to the commercial size that is now being presented. The original idea was to christen the last original recordings, especially from the sixties and seventies, with new remixes as "James Last Elements" to bring them up to date with the latest music technology. The first two or three tracks worked so well that James Last was invited to get involved again and he started working with the author and producer Richard Darbyshire, known as the frontman of the eighties rockers "Living In A Box", and his colleagues from By4 Records, including James Last's son Ron. The album consists of remix versions of classic tracks like Games That Lovers Play and Sandy's Theme with brand new tracks made especially for this album, including Coustline, Manhã de Carnaval and the Last Last composition Autumn Moon, written in memory of his concert tour through China.

Here is a remarkable Amazon customer review, which examines the possible problems of the "new" James-Last "Chill-Out" sound: "Hello, I received the CD Elements yesterday and of course I listened right in. My opinion on this is rather ambivalent. On the one hand, Hansi seems to be floating on the chill-out wave, which sounds very good with him, but where his typical style is no longer recognizable. On the other hand, adding new solos changed other songs, let's call it neutral. I thought Sandy's theme was the worst. Here the fine drum sound of Robert Last was drowned out by hard beats. This piece has clearly lost. Everyone else, on the other hand, needs getting used to, but not necessarily bad. Just different. By this I mean the basically - to my taste - not so bad chill-out music as on the CDs of the same name, like at 10 pm on classical radio or the Space Night CDs etc.".



James Last (1929-2015) was a German bandleader, composer, arranger and music producer. After his training as a cadet at the army music schools in Frankfurt am Main and Bückeberg he played the bass with his brothers Werner and Robert in the dance and entertainment orchestra of Radio Bremen and the Last-Becker Ensemble on the initiative of Hans Günther Oesterreich from 1946. His brother Werner later made his own career under the name Kai Warner, and his brother Robert Last played drums in th

The arrangement of "FOOL". Originally the title - when James Last wrote it in 1969 - was "No Words". When "the words" were added, it became "Fool" and Elvis Presley recorded it for his album Elvis Country in 1973. For "Elements Vol.1" by James the original James Last recording with choir parts, percussion part and trumpet by Derek Watkins was added and remixed. The result was a very slow (tempo 65!), beautiful chill-out version to relax. Between the relatively short orchestral solo parts of mostly 16 bars some bars of only very strongly reduced accompaniment were inserted, which then prepares very intensively for the repeated thematic arrival with a new instrument version. I especially like this choir-whistle (whistle) transition! Here the sound craftsmen are in demand again: Whistle is monophonic - choir is polyphonic!



Slow-Beat, (T=65)

The musical score is arranged in four staves. The top staff is for Strings, showing two chords in the bass clef. The second staff is for Guitar, featuring a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with some syncopation. The third staff is for Bass, showing a melodic line with eighth notes and some syncopation. The bottom staff is for Drums, showing a complex rhythmic pattern with a snare rimshot. The score is divided into two measures by a vertical line.

Strings

Guitar

Bass

Bongos ad lib.
HH-sticked

Drums

BD Rimshot

Programming instruction

A "slow beat" with RIMSHOT (snare edge) as a second helping is available in many standard forms. I even met the above guitar accompanist. So that the whole thing doesn't get too boring, a little syncopation was added to the bass part. The bongos could also be added ad libitum to enhance the Latin touch. However, the string surface sound is obligatory - which is executed as GM-No.50, so "slow strings", but a phasing pad would also be welcome!" "Translated with www.DeepL.com/Translator