

June 2025

SONGLINES

Brain Damage x Emiko Ota x Mad Professor Oide Oide

Jarring Effects



Every track of this post dub' album brings a smile to my face, even on repeated listenings! It is a glorious collaboration between Japanese

multidisciplinary artist Emiko Ota, French producer/composer Brain Damage and British dubmeister/ producer Mad Professor, With her ever-changing vocal textures, Emiko brings a beautiful lightness to even the deepest darkest dub of Oide Oide's voyage into the mystic realm of uōkai, restless supernatural creatures. Yōkai is apparently a compound of uo ('attractive, bewitching or calamity') and kai ('mystery or wonder') and that for sure is the inspirational force guiding the music. Brain Damage has sculpted the first five tracks to complement and animate Emiko's tales of unpredictable mystic beings. They span a range from deep dub to infectious earworms like 'Isogashi'. which could rival Billie Eilish's 'bad guy'. Then Mad Professor takes over on the controls for 'live' remixes of the five tracks, heard through a darkened dub glass, drenched in heavier bass, but still with the anarchic joy of Emiko's vocals. MAX REINHARDT

TRACK TO TRY Isogashi