



## REAL MUSIC | FAKE FILMS

**For Immediate Release**

**Date: September, 2009**

**Document Number: 090900001**

**Phantom Soundtracks** is a Chicago, IL, U.S.-based record company whose mission is to create and release full-length soundtrack albums for non-existent films. Founder Darren Callahan, who has written drama for the BBC and the Sci Fi Channel, and also has released over 40 records of original music, has been a longtime fan of film soundtracks. "I was drawn to them when I was young. I started buying soundtracks to films I wasn't old enough yet to see – *'Halloween,' 'The Island,' 'Escape from New York'* – anything that I could find. I couldn't get into the movies yet because they were all rated R. But I wanted to have a part of that story. It was usually genre music for horror and science fiction during the late 1970s and early 1980s. If it came out in that period, I probably owned it."

Production teams are assembled to concoct a film idea, a brief outline, sample dialog, title and logline. Actors and/or models are cast in key roles. Lobby stills are storyboarded and shot by a professional photographer, reenacting scenes from the unmade movie. Then, a composer retreats to create cues based on the sketchy details of the story and the mood of the photographs. At last, the record is released to the world.

"It's definitely a labor of love," says Callahan, "a way to create an experience that exists only in a handful of images, a poster, a few brushstrokes and, of course, a score."

Releases will be national through independent channels, including online retailers such as iTunes. "We're not expecting big sales – heck, *actual* film scores don't sell many copies. But we're gonna try it."

The flagship album is "**Spikes**" – a 1970s-style *slasher film* featuring an all-analog synthesizer score, reminiscent of such classics as the music of John Carpenter, Chattaway's "*Maniac*," Myrow and Seagrave's "*Phantasm*," or the works of GOBLIN.

In the future, the sky's the limit – a jazz score, orchestral, an all-song score with ten fake bands. "There will always be different production team with a different take on things," says Callahan. "It's more like, 'Let's put on a show,' than an actual business venture. But hopefully...it will be a great show/score. And it's certainly cheaper than making a whole movie!"