

stereophile

Today, no serious record producer can ignore MCH. While rock and pop is a jungle with profligate use of the rear channels on most reissues, the spectacular SACD reissue of Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon* (Capitol CDP 7243 5 82136 2-US) is an occasion for rejoicing and the hope for more music invented specifically for MCH. The advance scout is a fascinating DVD-Audio disc, *Immersion* (Starkland S-2010). The adventurous Starkland label commissioned 13 composers to create new music with the specific understanding that it would be delivered in 5.1 channels. Some pieces transport the listener to strange places both natural and unnatural, some superimpose experiences that could not otherwise be combined and others expose us to instruments whose spatial properties would be crushed if presented in only two channels. All the music is fascinating in MCH. In two channels, it doesn't make nearly as much sense.

"A fascinating DVD-Audio disc...

[commissioned by] the

adventurous Starkland label."