

S M A L L T A P E

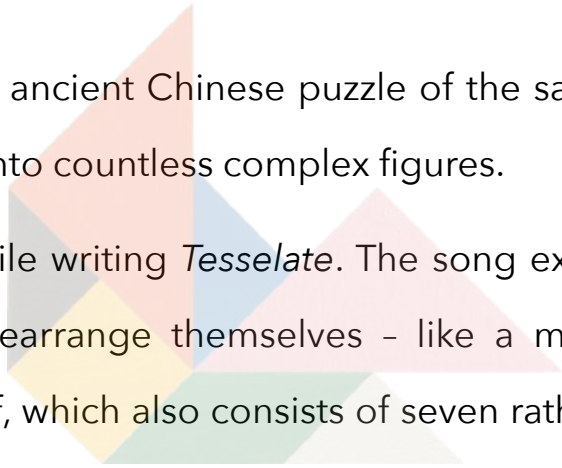


Tangram

Four years after the success of *The Hungry Heart*, smalltape returns with a new album. *Tangram* marks the most ambitious work to date by Berlin-based multi-instrumentalist and producer Philipp Nespital. Once again, Philipp takes full creative control over composition, recording, production and mixing – supported by a selection of outstanding guest musicians, including Bruce Soord (*The Pineapple Thief*).

About the Album - Tangram

The album title *Tangram* refers to the ancient Chinese puzzle of the same name, in which seven simple geometric shapes can be combined into countless complex figures.



"The idea came to me while writing *Tessellate*. The song explores how the fragments of our life stories continuously rearrange themselves – like a mosaic, or a tangram. I liked the analogy to the album itself, which also consists of seven rather different pieces (including the three-part *No Time*) that ultimately come together as a cohesive whole."

Musically, *Tangram* marks a significant evolution: the album blends the characteristic smalltape sound with new stylistic directions – a richly layered sonic journey full of energy, atmosphere and magical moments.

Musical Style - Between Art Rock, Jazz and Cinematic Soundscapes

The sound of smalltape moves confidently between art rock, progressive rock, jazz, and pop – always with a modern and atmospherically dense approach. Catchy melodies meet complex and dynamic arrangements, as well as experimental sound worlds. As a trained film sound engineer, Philipp Nespital brings a distinctive sense for dramaturgy and sound design to the table.

"For me, *progressive* means giving an idea whatever form it needs. It's about artistic freedom – for myself and for the listener."

While Philipp is responsible for the composition, production, and mixing, and performs nearly all instruments and vocals himself, *Tangram* also thrives on the contributions of outstanding guest musicians. In addition to string arrangements and performances by smalltape live band members Alexandra Praet and Flavio De Giusti, saxophonist Omri Abramov stands out with his expressive and virtuosic playing.

One of the album's highlights is Bruce Soord's guitar solo on *Second Chance*, where his unmistakable tone enhances the track's powerful art rock feel.

About smalltape

smalltape is the solo project of Berlin-based multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, composer and producer Philipp Nespital. With the first two albums *Circles* (2011) and *The Ocean* (2017), smalltape quickly developed from an insider tip into "a new star on the art rock horizon" (eclipsed magazine).

In 2021, *The Hungry Heart* became the project's most successful release to date. The album was named "Album of the Month" by eclipsed magazine and received enthusiastic reviews from numerous media outlets, including Rock Hard, MINT, Metal Hammer and Good Times.

The album was followed by international concerts and tours – including support shows for Bruce Soord (The Pineapple Thief). With his five-person live band, Nespital has performed on renowned stages across Europe, such as the Night of the Prog Festival (2018 & 2022) and Prog Power Festival.



Tangram - Release information



1. No Time (I) - (00:47)
2. Goodbye - (08:09)
3. Second Chance (05:07)
4. No Time (II) - (04:21)
5. Phoenix - (05:22)
6. Selene - (08:15)
7. No Time (III) - (06:39)
8. Gold Digger - (02:26)
9. Tessellate - (09:36)
10. Bonustrack: Behind the Glass - (03:16)
11. Bonustrack: Second Chance (Ext. Version) - (06:44)

Release Date: 7. Nov 2025

Label: MidJune Records

Distribution: www.smalltape.net (Germany) & Burning Shed (Worldwide)

Available as: CD Edition

Special CD+Blu-ray Edition (incl. Bonustracks, Dolby Atmos Mix, 5.1 Mix, 24/96 Stereo Mix)

Special 2LP-Edition (incl. Bonustracks, 180g double vinyl)

Tangram - Album Credits

Philipp Nespital - Vocals, Backing Vocals, Piano, Keyboards, Synths, Harmonium, Drums, Acoustic Guitars, Electric & Baritone Guitars, Bass Guitar (Track 4), Percussion, Sound Design

Bruce Soord - Guitar Solo (Track 3)

Flavio De Giusti - Guitars (Track 1, 5, 7), Guitar Solo (Track 2, 9), Baritone Guitar (Track 9)

Alexandra Praet - Bass Guitar (Track 3, 6), Backing Vocals (Track 6)

Omri Abramov - Soprano Saxophone (Track 2, 5, 7), Tenor Saxophone (Track 2, 7, 9)

Leonhard Eisenach - Bass Guitar (Track 5, 7)

Valgeir Daði Einarsson - Bass Guitar (Track 9)

Mark Kagan - Violins (Track 6, 9)

Anton Peisakhov - Cello (Track 6, 9)

Written and produced by Philipp Nespital

Recorded by Philipp Nespital

Drums recorded at SunnySideUpRecordings by Jan Siekmann and Kevin Reiter

Mixed by Philipp Nespital

Mastering by Ludwig Maier

Dolby Atmos Mix by Philipp Nespital & Christoph de la Chevallerie

Artwork by Ariana Escobar

Artwork Animation by Naama Zarfaty

Links

[Live video 'Goodbye' \(Tangram\)](#)

[Live video 'Phoenix' \(Tangram\)](#)

[Live video 'No Time \(III\)' \(Tangram\)](#)

[Live video 'smalltape live in Cologne'](#)

[Music video 'One Day'](#)

[Music video 'Colors'](#)

[Live video 'The Shore \(unplugged\)'](#)

[Live video 'The Sailor's Tale \(unplugged\)'](#)

[Download & listen to 'Tangram'](#)

[Download promo photos](#)



Press reviews on *Tangram*

"Tipp of the month!" (**Rock Hard Magazine**)

"Tangram is a small cinematic masterpiece." (**MINT Magazine**)

"Tangram is no ordinary prog rock album but an abstract work of sound art." (**Metal Hammer**)

"A masterpiece. Period." (**Betreutes Proggen**)

"There's a lot of this kind of music about, and handled badly it can end up all style and no substance. There's no such issue with Tangram." (**PROG Magazine**)

"A musically sophisticated puzzle of (not only) art rock, prog and jazz." (**eclipsed Rock Magazine**)

"The musical diversity in the songwriting is almost unbelievable." (**Break Out Magazine**)

"A masterpiece that shows that smalltape is one of the absolute top of modern progressive music." (**Progwereld**)

"The best that progressive rock and its wider milieu have to offer this year." (**musikreviews.de**)

"There is hardly anyone here in the German-speaking world who will dare to tackle such complex music in 2025." (**Empire Music**)

"smalltape never disappoints, you can bet on the experience being fascinating, emotional, and cinematic all at once."

(**The Prog Mind**)

Photos



Download [here](#)

Excerpt of previous shows

Support act for Bruce Soord, 2023 (Europe Tour)

Progressive Generation, 2022/2023 (Germany)

ProgPower Europe Festival, 2022 (The Netherlands)

Night of the Prog Festival, 2022 (Germany)

Crescendo Festival, 2022 (France)

ArtRock Festival, 2021 (Germany)

2Days Prog + 1 Festival, 2018 (Italy)

Night of the Prog Festival, 2018 (Germany)

Support act for Bent Knee (Artrock/US), 2018



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