

identity.sequence
zircon

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CREDITS

MUSIC:

Andrew Aversa (All Tracks)
Jillian Aversa (Tracks 6, 12)

LYRICS:

Andrew Aversa (Tracks 2, 3, 6, 10, 13)
Jillian Aversa (Tracks 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13)

FEMALE VOCALS: Jillian Aversa (Tracks 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 14)

MALE VOCALS: Chris Gordon (Tracks 3, 13)

CHOIR: Philadelphia Men's Chorale, dir. Jeffrey R. Smith (Track 10)

ALTO SOLOIST: Dan O'Neil (Track 10)

VIOLIN: Jeff Ball (Track 7)

ACOUSTIC GUITAR: Chris Gordon (Track 14)

ELECTRIC GUITAR: Juan Medrano (Track 11)

VOCAL RECORDING: Jillian Aversa (Tracks 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14)

CHORAL RECORDING: Silvertone Studios - Ardmore, PA (Track 10)

PRODUCTION & MIXING: Andrew Aversa (All Tracks)

MASTERING: John Rodd (All Tracks)

ARTWORK: Jessie Lam (AXL99.net)

FOREWORD

Identity Sequence is my tenth album, and my longest-running project yet. Ever since the release of *Antigravity*, I sought to create a worthy successor; a sonic universe blending synthetic and acoustic sounds, emotional melodies, and deep harmonies. It took five years to realize this goal and create the album you have in your hands.

This is a concept piece that tells the story of two people, a man and a woman, lost in a time when technology has simultaneously connected - and isolated - all of us. It follows the woman as she is born into this world, exploring her humanity. It follows the man, in his solitude and longing for connection. It tells of self-discovery, conflict, and what defines our “self”; our body, our mind, or both. Finally, the story is also about love, and the lengths we will go for those we care about.

I hope that as you listen to *Identity Sequence*, you will feel immersed in the world I’ve created. I hope it will inspire your own imagination from beginning to end. And, of course, I hope that you will enjoy it now, and for years to come.

THE STORY

The narrative thread of *Identity Sequence* developed in my mind as I composed each track and assembled them in order. Though I would like to share my own thoughts about what each song represents within the story, I encourage you to listen to and enjoy the album in your own way.

“**Genesis**” begins with the creation of our female protagonist. In the purest of white light, a consciousness is emerging within a series of amazing machines - whirring, moving, assembling piece by piece.

In “**Arms Open Wide**,” the woman experiences life for the first time. She possesses a pure and childlike innocence as she observes this future world full of wonders, all waiting to be explored.

[continued]

The song “**Million Years**” is told from the perspective of our male protagonist: an evolved being that has long since adapted to this world. But despite the existence of technology beyond our wildest imagination, he longs to find someone else like him.

“**Neurobazaar**” explores the darker side of this future; a black market, a melting pot of cybernetic parts and secrets. The city is bustling with dubious activity.

In “**Fabrication**,” the woman gradually realizes that she is not entirely human - a concept that terrifies her. During “**Identity Sequence**,” she begins to gain some measure of confidence in her artificial form, but the future is still daunting in its uncertainty.

“**Unity**” is a turning point in the story, as both male and female meet in the virtual world for the first time. Though the connection lasts for only a moment, they experience a lifetime of emotion.

The aftermath of this experience is told in “**Memory**,” a collage of thought and feeling drifting through the woman’s dreams. But she decides she must find this being once more, no matter the cost.

“**Colossus**” depicts her perilous journey - factories, mammoth machines, and sentries all standing in her way. There is a time for reflection in “**The Expanse**” as the woman begins to question whether there is any hope left to find her companion.

In “**System**,” both characters desperately race against time to reach each other in a virtual labyrinth. When they finally join, the female is injured. Time seems to stand still; all emotion is washed away except for her singular desire to “**Just Hold On**.”

In “**No Regret**,” the man assures her that whatever happens, they are now together, and that will never change. And as for “**The End**,” this piece I wish to truly speak for itself. As you listen, I hope it will evoke an ending to the story that captures your own imagination.



Arms Open Wide

Lyrics by Andrew & Jillian Aversa

Breathe, breathing serenity
Into the aura that surrounds me.

With arms open wide,
I feel light flowing through,
Embracing this calling
That I never knew.
The whispering of the trees
Sounds a name.
Awaken the hum of life again.

One world apart,
One consciousness,
One life to start,
One will to test,
One wound to heal,
One claim to stake,
One pulse that I feel,
One chance to take.

Taking the warmth inside,
I know the melody
Will guide me.

Million Years

Lyrics by Andrew & Jillian Aversa

A thousand miles from the start;
A million years in a moment;
Gathering souls carved apart;
This is the truth few have known.

The farther I draw this thread,
Infinity,
The deeper becomes the tapestry.
But down in the system
Where life flashes by,
I'm waiting to hear just one reply.

Connection...

Talk to me, won't you?
Talk with me, would you?
Look at me, will you?
Walk with me, can't you?

Talk to me, won't you?
Be with me, would you?
Look at me, will you?
Run with me, away...

Sometimes when it's raining,
I fall on my knees,
Allow me to taste the passing breeze.
So what would it take to shed
Your one disguise,
To finally reach and touch the sky?

Identity Sequence

Lyrics by Andrew & Jillian Aversa

Some voices are born of dreams -
Some not yet begun,
But for those who are forged of steel,
Spiritless,
I must lay the foundation.

There's a conscious defined,
Wont to be free,
And it's deep in my mind,
Calling to me.
But every time I look,
There's nothing there, no...

Still, I have to go on
Fighting my fear
Till the promise of dawn
Follows it here,
And an identity will rise.

One pulse wave of thought evolves.
It can't be undone.
If this current of life in my veins
Isn't real,
What lies on the horizon?

Fabrication

Lyrics by Jillian Aversa

What is this chill come over me:
A digital reality?

Eyes of a demon,
Agent of miscreation,
Mind of illusion,
Ghost of a fabrication.
Limbs of a titan,
Grinding the empty shell,
And this is me.
This is me...



The Expanse

Words from Catullus & Seneca

Odi et amo.
Quare id faciam, fortasse requiris?
Nescio, sed fieri sentio.

*I hate and I love.
How can I do that, you might ask?
I do not know, but that is what I feel.*

Dum inter homines sumus,
Colamus humanitatem.

*As long as we are among humans,
Let us be humane.*

Mors ultima linea rerum este.

Death is the ultimate end of all things.

Just Hold On

Lyrics by Jillian Aversa

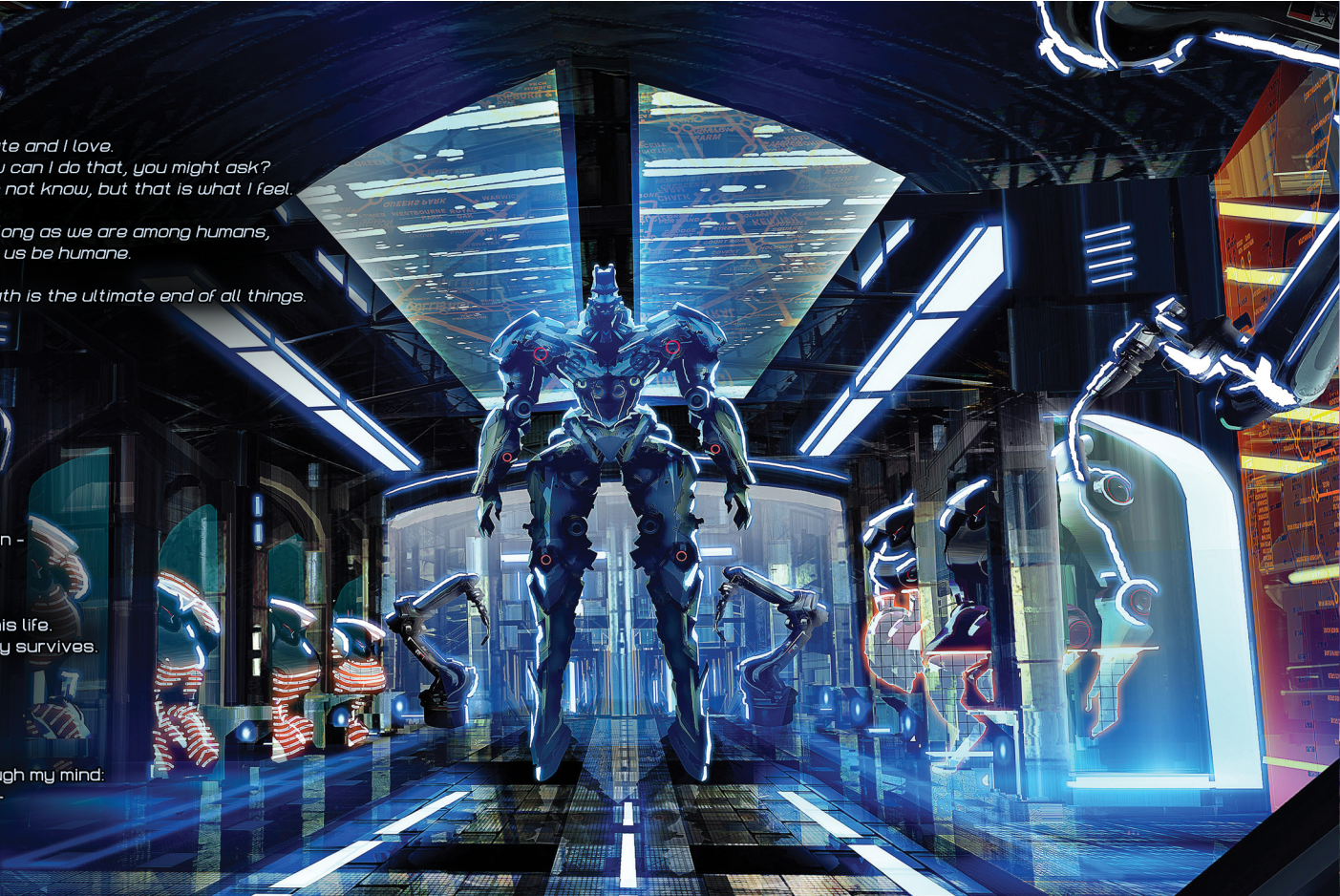
In the sea of night, where my soul is real,
Broken visions let the darkness heal,
And the dream of life will surely reside.

I can hear your heart. I can touch your skin -
Feel the whole world breathing from within.
I can live it here, forever inside.

Just hold on to everything I know I need this life.
Just hold on to the only place where reality survives.

From the deepest reaches, I can't deny
I've been waiting here for your reply.
Can't seem to break away from this love.

And there's one last thought running through my mind:
Would I leave this shell - the raw confines -
All to feel another moment with you?



No Regret

Lyrics by Andrew & Jillian Aversa

Hope glimmers from afar,
The faintest whisper heard.
Hope is what we are:
A simple truth - a word.

Digital divide,
Our sorrow fades away.
We need - we must - survive
Till nothing is left to say.

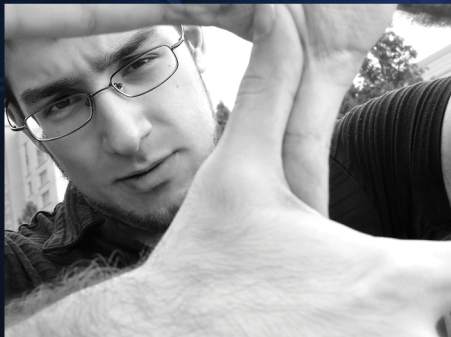
I can see
A world beyond the place
That we wanna be.
Let me hold you
With no regret.

Love - a different frame of mind.
We'll leave it all behind
And never turn around.

Reach out and hold my hand.
I'll carry you, and then
Together we will stand
Without ever asking when.

And never torn apart,
Our spirit will be free.
No matter what we are,
Let go and follow me.





ABOUT ZIRCON

Andrew Aversa (a.k.a. Zircon) is an award-winning composer, producer, and sound designer renowned for his cutting edge blend of "organic electronic" music. With ten original albums to date, his expanding discography has been met with both critical and popular acclaim - *Impulse Prime* and *Antigravity* took home victories in both the 2006 and 2009 JPF Music Awards, and *Identity Sequence* in the 2012 Independent Music Awards.

Aversa's fascination with computer music developed after years of classical piano training. His first electronic works were video game music remixes created for free distribution at **OverClocked ReMix**, a community in which he would later meet his wife, Jillian. He was awarded a full scholarship at **Drexel University** in the Music Industry program, where he now teaches a course in video game audio.

Beyond the realm of dance music, Aversa's reputation as a versatile composer has yielded credits with major game developers (**CAPCOM**, **NAMCO BANDAI**, **LUCASARTS**, **DISNEY**), television networks (**FOX**, **NBC**, **MTV**, **BBC**), and other media. He is a true sound-scientist at heart, creating unique instruments as co-founder and lead producer of **Impact Soundworks**, a developer of musical sample libraries.

Though highly active in all of these commercial and professional endeavors, Aversa has made a habit of creating guides and tutorials to help aspiring musicians achieve their own goals. Through these resources, and through his own original music, he seeks to leave a positive impact in the greater music community.

ABOUT JILLIAN

Jillian Aversa is an award-winning vocalist, songwriter, and performer whose shimmering voice has appeared in a medley of projects - from video games, film, and hit dance singles to her original solo albums. Her ethereal vocals can be heard in video game franchises **HALO**, **GOD OF WAR**, **CIVILIZATION**, and **SOULCALIBUR V**, for which she co-composed the ending theme. Her original music has garnered no less attention, landing international radio airplay and numerous awards including the **OurStage Music Grand Prize**, **JPF Best New Age Album**, and third place in the **Indie International Songwriting Contest**.

But with an extensive background in theater and voice, Jillian commands the stage as well as the studio. After graduating from the **Peabody Conservatory of Music**, where she received the **George Castelle Memorial Award** in voice, she continued her development as a performer. Now guest appearing in professional symphony orchestra concerts around the world, Jillian is an international soloist in her own right.

Jillian and Andrew met during their college years through a mutual love of video game music, and after many joyous collaborations, were married in 2009.

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DEDICATION

To all of those who give my life meaning, purpose, and joy:
my family, friends, mentors, fans, and - of course - my wife, Jillian.

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