

The idea that DNA and music might be connected originates 30 years ago with the work of Dr. Susumu Ohno, a geneticist at the Beckman Institute of the City of Hope Hospital in Duarte, California. Dr. Ohno has notated more than fifteen songs based on the DNA of a variety of living organisms. Dr Ohno's wrote about authentically connecting the DNA code to musical composition.

"... the principle of repetitious recurrence pervades both the construction of coding sequences in the genome, which can be regarded as being representative of nature and musical composition which can then be regarded as the most abstract and therefore the most intellectual expression of nature."

So nature has already discovered that the principals of sound and sequence are the perfect tools to build biological entities efficiently, expressively and musically.

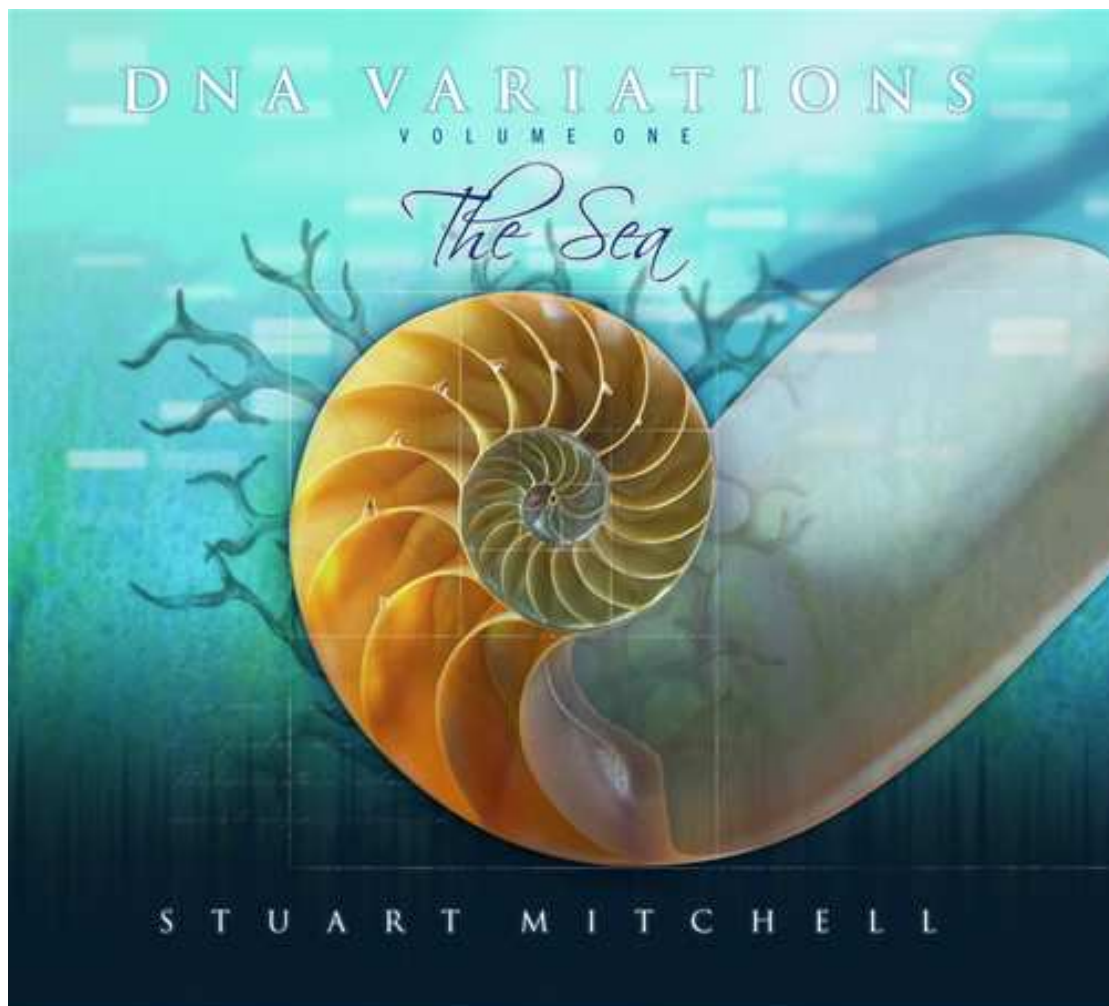
All we have to do is understand and express its properties to benefit this language of sound and sequence that appears to have been composed a very very long time ago..but by who or what?

For a musician the process is simple, the score already exists within ourselves and is there to be read and interpreted using simple genetic software, one can take a sequence of DNA data directly from an internet database, translate its amino acid sequence into music tone by assigning relative pitches to the amino acid's measured by their molecular weight and salt, acid content. 22 amino acids become a 22 note scale of music in which an infinite amount of melodic structures can be revealed and the artistically expressed into a piece of music direct from The Library of Helixandria.

DNA music takes several different forms. My own company [Your DNA Song Ltd](#) focuses on the 'Unique Identifiers' within our DNA where we can amplify the most individual sequence of amino acids that are completely unique to one individual. From this data we can then translate and produce a melodic piece of music wholly specific to that individual, designed and produced to the owner's personal musical taste and style.

Another form of DNA we translate into music is MTDNA (Mitochondrial) which is better known as Ancestral DNA and is used by Family Tree companies worldwide to trace the roots of our and many species genetic heritage. Because this particular form of DNA hardly changes except for a few variations over long periods of time, millions of years in fact, it is possible to track these variations and make a map of the lineage of every species that has existed on Earth to the present day. It also appears to a musical ear that mtDNA holds the most melodic musical sequences of all, which is why I am producing three symphonies expressing selected mtDNA music from the 3 environments on our planet, The Sea, The Earth and The Sky.

DNA Variations I – The Sea was completed in 2010 with sensational artwork by Realm Creative. DNA Variations II – Earth is currently under completion to be released in April 2011.



Artwork by: www.realmcreative.com

If there is a creator of DNA, he/she must have a clear understanding of the laws, principals and expression of the universal art form known to us, as music...

Stuart Mitchell March 2011-03-10