

GRAMMY AWARDS CATEGORY RULES

New Age Field

BEST NEW AGE ALBUM

FOR ALBUMS

VOCAL OR INSTRUMENTAL

SCREENING CRITERIA This category recognizes excellence in albums of New Age recordings. New Age music is generally ambient, exploratory, and journey-like in nature, welcoming dissonance and consonance alike. It represents a widening field in which various elements and influences from pop, jazz, classical, folk, downtempo, ambient, atmospheric, electronic, and avant-garde idioms may combine to serve the intention of wellness and introspection. By merit of its historical roots, New Age Music may include sacred as well as secular components; however, recordings with sacred content or intent are generally non-sectarian or universal in nature.

Structurally, New Age compositions emphasize texture and space. Instrumentally, the music can contain synthesized and acoustic instruments. Rhythmically, the music can range from meterless to repetitive 4/4 beats. Melodically and harmonically, the composition works to serve the feel and intent.

The category includes environmental recordings (where the recordist would be considered the artist). Seasonal/holiday recordings are not eligible in this category.