

# Chômu Press

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## Member

By Michael Cisco

*Published by Chômu Press 16<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2013, £12.50, Paperback*



*Member* is Michael Cisco's third novel with Chômu Press, a multi-dimensional Kafkaesque fantasy following the hero's efforts to puzzle out the game of Chorncendantra into which he has accidentally recruited himself. As the glossary tells us, Chorncendantra is "the current phase of the cosmic game originating on the artificial planetary system ... played across many planets. Chorncendantra is the universal systemmechanism. It is the human game."

In a sustained tracking-shot narrative that extends the range of his previous fiction, Cisco takes us into the real-time virtual reality of a strange universe that might just be our own, where, focusing on what is in front of us, we feel the vastness of the cosmos to which our corner of specific details is connected. Lynchian in the vivid strangeness of its invention, *Member* confirms the niche that Cisco has carved for himself as the modern philosophical fantasist par excellence.

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“A rivetingly strange novel in which Cisco mixes game theory, serious philosophy, SF, and dark fantasy into something at once unreal and really entrancing. Kind of like what might happen if Wyndham Lewis decided to write like M. John Harrison and had Martin Heidegger as his editor. *Member* is a complex, compelling work.”

Brian Evenson

**Praise for Cisco’s previous work:**

“With Michael Cisco doing things like this, sometimes it feels like the rest of literature might as well get up and head home.”

China Miéville (on Cisco’s *Celebrant*)

“Fans of stylish and thematically sophisticated weird fiction should seek out this mad testament to Cisco’s visionary genius.”

Publishers Weekly (on Cisco’s *The Great Lover*)

***For more information or a review copy, please contact Kasia on  
pr@chomupress.com or 0208 099 1507***

**Michael Cisco:**

Michael Cisco is the author of *The Divinity Student* (Buzzcity Press; International Horror Writers Guild Award for best first novel of 1999), *The San Veneficio Canon* (Prime Books, 2004), *The Tyrant* (Prime Books, 2004), a contributor to *The Thackery T. Lambshead Pocket Guide to Eccentric and Discredited Diseases* (eds. Jeff VanderMeer and Mark Roberts) and *Album Zutique* (ed. Jeff VanderMeer), and his work has appeared in *Leviathan III* and *Leviathan IV* (ed. Forrest Aguirre). His novel, *The Traitor*, is published by Prime (2007). *Secret Hours*, a collection of his Lovecraftian short stories, is published by Mythos Books (2007). In 2009-2010, his stories have appeared in the *Phantom* (“Mr. Wosslynnne”), *Black Wings* (“Violence, Child of Trust”), *Lovecraft Unbound* (“Machines of Concrete Light and Dark), *Cinnabar’s Gnosis: A Tribute to Gustav Meyrink* (“Modern Cities Exist Only to be Destroyed”), and *Last Drink Bird Head* anthologies. His columns and the occasional review can be found at TheModernWord.com. He lives and teaches in New York City.

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**Chômu Press** is an award-winning independent UK publisher dedicated to publishing fiction that is both imaginative and unhindered by considerations of genre. They’ve been described as the publisher equivalent to art house cinema, eclectic and anarchic without sacrificing quality. Their mission is to publish books that people will read in the same way they listen to popular music—not from duty, but in the excitement of personal discovery.

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