netBloc Vol. 10:

Postmodernism is dead.

Postmillennialism killed it...

...sorry Andy :(

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Postmillennialism?

Not as defined by Protestant Christians

So what does the title of this netBloc mean anyway? What do I consider to be postmillennialism? First off, I don't define the term the same as some Protestents do. The postmillennialism I'm referring to has little to do with the Second Coming of Christ. It also holds more meaning than just about the arts (although the arts always do play a part in these eras). I am saying that global culture is now in upheaval. No longer are we in the Postmodern era. How long can postmodernism as a cultural label be used anyway? It's been used to label art and culture since the 1950s, a half a century.

Do we really need yet another label? Yes and no. I personally hate labels, but humanity clearly loves them. For a culture that has so clearly changed since the turn of the millennium, what better "label" than postmillennialism? Postmodernism was about eschewing "modernity" as an end in itself. In the arts it was about mixing mediums, pushing boundaries... the same goes for music. Clearly we have pushed boundaries and mixed mediums and meanings. We have questioned the past's authority over us. That's all been said and done, yet here we are... in a world that's clearly eager to get it's war on. A world that's eager to suppress the freedoms of the masses... thanks in no small part to the policies or lack-there-of of the current US administration. How is it that culture has stepped backward, after so many decades of seeming to move forward? If this post-2000 world is not an entirely different cultural entity than the pre-2000 world, I don't know what is. I think what we have now is a world that has forgotten the lessons of the past due to our global postmodern eagerness to forgo the past's authority over us.

So, sorry Mr. Warhol... postmodernism is in fact dead... and yes postmillennialism did indeed kill it.

A new era

So here we are in a new era. Not a shiny untarnished one... the tarnish began to show in 2001. Thankfully, it's not yet all tarnish. The mainstream music industry's war on file-sharing is backfiring and taking it's toll on the industry itself. Instead of focusing on innovative ways to embrace the digital era, the industry has focused on first ignoring it and then fighting it. All the while, the new net audio culture has been growing and gaining a tiny footing where the mainstream once was. If postmillennialism is defined politically by war, maybe some of this era's backwardness can be redeemed by the forward thinking of the open-source / copyleft movements. I hope when all is said and done, forward thinking wins out during this era.

netBloc Vol. 10

Thanks once again for checking out, this, our latest installment in the netBloc series. 10 more net audio gems for you to groove to. The first in three that we'll be releasing in the next month / month and a half. Following this one, will, be the December release and then we'll kick off the new year with a special release that explores the issues of public domain and open-licensing. For right now, put this one on and enjoy.... oh and have fun customizing this release using the alternate package art files.

Peace
Mike Gregoire
Owner/Creator blocSonic.com

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dent

01 Ghostown - Moy Moy Moy (4:35)

(from the independent release 'Phantomatics')

GHOSTOWN

Ghostown

Ghostown

Ghostown

Ghostown

Ghostown

Written by: Rael Powell
Produced by: Ghostown
Performed by:
Motif, keys, samples, sequence, rap: Rael
Scratches, samples: Kirsa
Guitar: Bat
Recorded at: Spectre Studios, Montpelllier, France
Year: 2007
Release URL: http://www.jamendo.com/en/album/9516/
Artist URLs:
http://www.jamendo.com/en/artist/ghostown/
http://www.myspace.com/raelsghostown
License: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/

Moy Moy Moy

Another fresh hip-hop sound from one of my favorite Hip-Hop artists in a long time. A tight flow along with Bat's guitar and Kirsa's cuts interwoven with Rael's unique sense of sampling. A little birdie tells me that the release that contains this track is just to hold us over until their full album is completed. Keep on feeding us the gems!

Ghostown

Ghostown is the project of 27 year old Rael, now based in France, drawing on wide influences from Eno's 70's experiments, Prince Paul productions, Trickys mellow moments to the Bulgarian mountain folk music. Ghostowns sound is strong, varied and original. In one listeners own words "Hypnotizing melodies, dark creepy lyrics, soft rapping vocals, Ghostown sounds like an absolutelly logical extrapolation of hip

hop but with a surprisingly unique voice”

Having undergone many guises over the years since his first trip hoppy excursions way back in 98, Rael / Dr Rael-skinn / El - Ra / Dr Vorillon. For the last year Ghostown have been stirring up a fuss in the south of france. Building on influences such as traditional eastern gypsy and klezmzer music, 90s hip hop, experimental groups such as Talking heads, and the various works of sir Brian Eno. The emergence of trip hop, portishead and electronic music, drum and bass and the like. Ghostowns sound has been unique since 98, however different, however varied, there is a special something holding it all together. Having always worked with musicians (and being a musician himself) Raels personal projects have often been interpreted live with a band. Currently Ghostown has 2 permanent members, adding their own style and twist to the Ghostown sound. Kirsa (Microsilloneurs), is a deck manipulator, (scratch artist) or simply a DJ, but he is much more, he uses his decks as an instrument itself, making his samples sing melodies that were never there beforehand. Besides his musical skills, Kirsa is also more and more present in structuring the songs and putting forward ideas for the arrangements. Baptiste (Process)’s electric guitar has a lot of character, whether joining the manicness of Raels wacky synthesizers or thickening the atmosphere with moody chords. Ghostown are constantly innovating/ re-inventing and creating, each live interpretation is slightly (or sometimes hugely) different.

02 DavidBowman - Durch Die Zeiten (3:17)

(from the independent release 'Bis hier hin mitgenommen')

DAVIDBOWMAN

Bis hier hin mitgenommen
DAVIDBOWMAN

Written, produced & performed by: André Rauhofer
Recorded at: The Westernwoodstoyfactory
Year: 2007
Release URL: http://www.jamendo.com/en/album/8613/
Artist URLs:
http://www.davidbowman.de/
http://www.myspace.com/bowmansjourney
http://www.jamendo.com/en/artist/davidbowman/
License: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0/de/

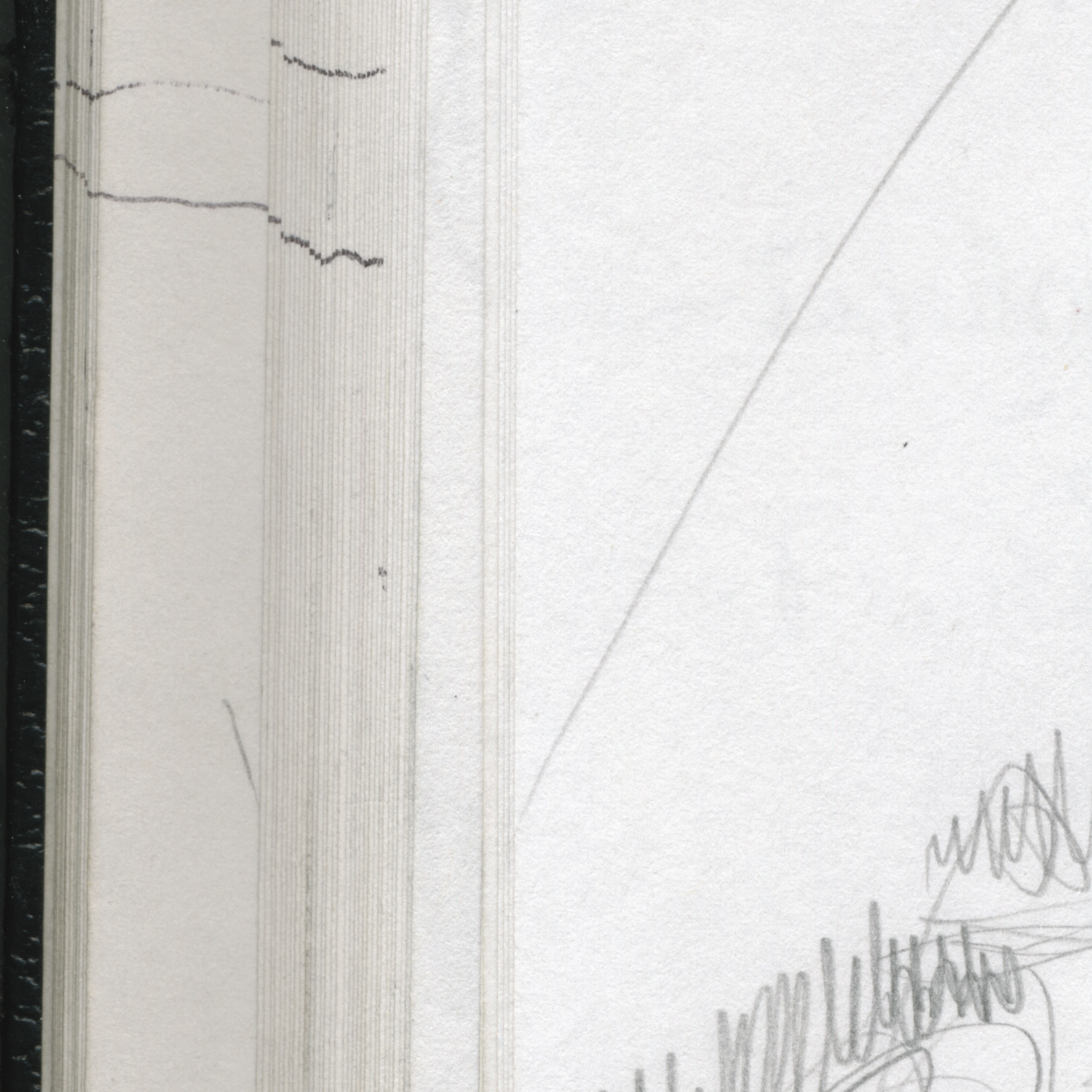
Durch Die Zeiten

DavidBowman is proving to be one to keep an eye on in the world of net audio. An expert pop writer. A terrific sense of his own sound and the ability to consistently deliver memorable German rock.

DavidBowman

“DavidBowman” is a “singer/songwriter meets electro and indiepop” project from Hessen, Germany. To avoid misunderstanding (I´ve been asked many times)... David Bowman has nothing to do with David Bowie. It’s the astronaut from Kubrick´s popular artmovie “2001 - A space odyssey”. And unfortunately there’s only one member left of the crew now, who’s never been a fan of David Bowie, although there’s a lot of respect for him as an artist. The ship has been steered by André Rauhofer (Guitar, Piano, Programming, Vocals, Production) since 1999.

“Durch die Zeiten” is taken from the latest long-play CD “Bis hier hin mitgenommen”, downloadable at www.davidbowman.de.



03 Garmisch Partenkirchen - München (3:47)

(from the Go, Jukebox! release 'The Munich EP' Go010)

GarmischPartenkirchenTheMunichEp

Written by: Charlotte Fagerlund
Produced by: GPK
Performed by: GPK
Recorded at: GPK-studios
Year: 2007
Release URL: http://www.gojukebox.net/download.htm
Artist URLs:
http://www.myspace.com/garmischpartenkirchen
http://www.gojukebox.net/artists.htm#gpk
Netlabel: Go, Jukebox!
Netlabel URL: http://gojukebox.net/
License: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.5/deed.en

München

Oh, what the world is missing... the mainstream music world, anyway. Electro-pop as it should be. Stylish, terrific production and topped off with a touch of attitude.

Garmisch Partenkirchen

GPK is one of those things that just seems to happen when you try to convert feverish dreams into something quite beautiful but since you don't really remember exactly how the dream started or what it sounded like or who was in it you stumble and falter and end up with something resembling the aspirin more than the fever. GPK is an electronica-act suffering from a power shortage. They like their music as they like their food. They're a trick of the mind, even though they never mean to confuse anyone other than themselves. GPK is an everlasting conflict between five people who are deeply scared of conflicts. They live in Malmö, Sweden. GPK are nice people.

Don’t hold it against them.

Go, Jukebox!

Go, Jukebox! started out in spring 2005 and states itself as a node in the exciting world of free downloads. Go, Jukebox! is about amusement and, at the same time, pushing the big record labels a little bit closer to the abyss by giving away the music for free. At the same time Go, Jukebox! loves to present great music that deserves attention, and hopefully also make you find other great labels that really need your money, love and devotion.

04 Shorthand Phonetics - Chivalry Is Lost on Some People (4:20)

(from the Yes No Wave Music release 'Apparently, I'm In Medicine / Love, or the Illusion of the Beginning Symptoms of It' yesno008)

SHORTHAND PHONETICS

shorthand phonetics
apparently...i'm in medicine / love, or the illusion of the beginning symptoms of it

Written, produced and performed by: Ababil Ashari
Recorded at: Ababil's bedroom
Year: 2007
Release URL: http://www.yesnowave.com/albums/yesn0008.htm
Artist URL:
http://www.myspace.com/shorthandphonetics
Artist contact: chandlerashari@yahoo.com.sg
Netlabel: Yes No Wave Music
Netlabel URL: http://www.yesnowave.com
License: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/

Chivalry Is Lost on Some People

This one will sneak up on you. A distinctly lo-fi sound with a wonderful guitar melody and hook that'll grab you.

Shorthand Phonetics

Shorthand Phonetics is a medical school student. Ababil Ashari's outlet for his diary lyrics and alt/lo-fi/indie rock instrumentation.

The band has been active since 2004, releasing two albums. The first "Fanfiction: From the Absurdly Serious to the Absurdly Serious" (2006) became an internet hit scoring over +6000 downloads owing to Shorthand Phonetics' wizard rock fanbase and the second album "Apparently, I'm in Medicine / Love, or the Illusion of the Beginning Symptoms of It" (2007) looks to follow in that tradition.

Shorthand Phonetics is currently recording album number three, set for a free release spring/summer 2008.

Yes No Wave Music

Yes No Wave Music is a netlabel based in Yogyakarta, run by Wok The Rock dan Bagus Jalang. This online label permits band/musician to publish their works to a broader public. The mission is to promote works of young talents having not so many opportunities, financially to produce and distribute their works on vynil, CD or cassette formats. Together with band/musician involved we consent to produce works that will be distributed freely through the internet. YES NO WAVE MUSIC rest no limits on music genre.

Yes No Wave Music is a 'gift economy' act, an experiment of free music distribution to this capitallistic world. An act not to annihilate, yet to provide alternatives is free music works distribution. Yes No Wave Music produces also merchandise which sales allocated to fund the web's hosting, domain and updates.

05 My First Trumpet - Dipl Link (3:14)

(from the Aerotone/12Rec. release 'Frerk' aer009/12rec043)

MY FIRST TRUMPET

MY FIRST TRUMPET
FREAK

Written, produced and performed by: Kevin Hamann
Recorded at: My First Trumpet's bedroom
Year: 2007
Release URLs:
http://aerotone.300l600.de/index.php?id=2,73,0,0,1,0
http://www.12rec.net/Release_My-First-Trumpet_043.htm
Artist URLs:
http://www.myspace.com/myfirsttrumpet
Netlabels: Aerotone / 12Rec.
Netlabel URLs:
http://aerotone.net
http://12Rec.net
License: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0/de/deed.en_GB

Dipl Link

Another terrific track coming from Germany. A sweet little slightly glitchy pop piece... but not too much glitchiness, My First Trumpet knows how far to take it without it overpowering his sound.

My First Trumpet

Augenblicke und Ideen festzuhalten, Träume zu fangen ohne sie später zu verändern, zu verbessern oder zu verdrängen, sie einfach so zu nehmen wie sie sind, das ist die Aufgabe die in My First Trumpet für den Protagonisten Kevin Hamann selbst ruht. Eine Herausorderung und Erleichterung zugleich, kann er sich doch mehr Freiheit gönnen als bei andern Projekten und sich mehr auf die Instrumente, den Klang und die Stimmung konzentrieren. Wie das klingt kann er selber nicht bestimmen, er ist zu

müde...

My First Trumpet lebt, arbeitet, liebt und atmet in Hamburg. Seit wann es das gibt weiß er selbst nicht, eigentlich schon immer.

Aerotone

Aerotone (AER) is a small but ambitious netlabel dedicated to heartfelt, beautiful contemporary music based in Munich/Germany. AER started as a netlabel for electronic music and is now discovering the beauty of music with an acoustic approach. Expect high quality netaudio in additional genres like Nu-Jazz, Pop, Acoustica or Folk.

12rec.

12rec. is a German based netlabel that has been releasing music as Creative Common licensed MP3's and as handcrafted CD-R's for just over two years now. Their releases span a wide range of styles that include, but are not limited to, post-rock, electronica (in the broadest sense), rap, instrumental and electronic hip-hop, pop (in its seemingly infinite variations), and even folk. There is a strong leaning towards music that is, in general, both poignant and experimental.

06 Joiejoiejoie - Pilmipilpi (3:24)

(from the Poni Republic release '2006 EP' EP3-TPR-014)

2006 ep

Written, produced and performed by: Clément Marion
Recorded at: Clément's home
Year: 2007
Release URL: http://ponirepublic.com/catalogue.htm
Artist URLs:
http://joiejoiejoie.free.fr/
http://www.myspace.com/joiejoiejoie
Netlabel: Poni Republic
Netlabel URL: http://ponirepublic.com
License: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.5/

Pilmipilpi

The perfect track to follow Dipl Link. A similar vibe to this one from Belgium's own Joiejoiejoie. Truly joyous music.

Joiejoiejoie

Clément Marion is French and currently living in Belgium. He's the kind of songwriter that would attract the

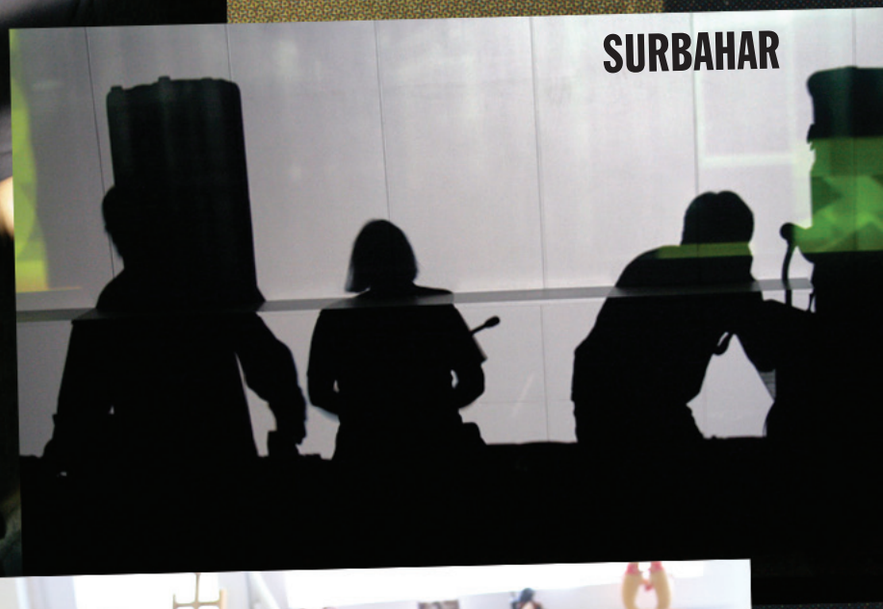
attention of people who dig Sofia Coppola's soundtracks. Joiejoiejoie is indeed cheery, cute and even corky, but it's so sincere and real to it's own imaginary musical world, that it hooks you up until you need more and more of his soothing perky songs.

Poni Republic

Poni, means youth.

07 Surbahar - Spirit of Love (Dreaming In Green) (4:13)

(from the OUIM.net release 'Tubifex' ouimnet019)


SURBAHAR

KORAI ÖRÖM

#OUIM019
Photo by Svetlin Zlatkov
photo-cult.com/pulse
Surbahar:Tubiflex

Written and produced by: Pavel Stoychev
Performed by:
Pavel Stoychev
Vocals, Lyrics: Miki Valchanova
Guitar: Miroslav Cvetkov
Recorded at: Pavel's home studio, Substitute Rec., Sofia, Bulgaria 2004
Year: 2006
Release URL: http://ouim.net/releases/ouimnet019/
Artist URL:
http://www.myspace.com/pavelot
Netlabel: OUIM.net
Netlabel URL: http://ouim.net
License: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/

Spirit of Love (Dreaming In Green)

Thanks to Free Albums Galore for this one. I came across this release via that excellent blog recently and immediately thought of it for this release. A classic trip-hop sound with a jazzy vocal delivery by Miki Valchanova.

Surbahar

Surbahar is a solo project inspired by nature and the vedic science of inwardly knowledge. Our consciousness has a lot of questions whose answers are forgotten. Creating music helps me to remember them.

This project has two main directions - Ambient/IDM & Minimal

OUIM.net

Bulgarian web portal OUIM.org started on 5th of February, 2004. From it's creation till now, it is the main source of information for the Trance scene in Bulgaria. Within it you can find about upcoming parties, to browse photos from past ones, and to share your thoughts in the forum. Watch out for almost all biggest festivals around the Europe and rest of the world. At the same time you can read about different civil initiatives; to read articles on such a themes like nature, music, cinema, graphic design and all kind of art and culture.

Officially the netlabel OUIM.net opened on 10th of March, 2005. It's style - electronic sound in all of it's forms. All the music inside is authors and freely for download and share, released under Creative Commons Deed - Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs. The primary idea was to promote only Bulgarian artists, but later there were involved people from all Europe, America, Russia. In time section for dj sets was formed, for which regularly record their selection some of the most perspective young DJs around OUIM.org.

From the beginning of 2007, the youngest member of OUIM's family is EILO.org Internet Radio, where people except of listening can download and every dj mix. Now it offers several stations. It's online 24/7/365!

"Ouim" is a neologism, which comes from the sacred sound "Ohm". It is a kind of combination between the nicknames of it's founders - Aluin (also known just as Poli) and Omi. When you bring together "Omi" and "Aluin" you will get "Ouim". Actually this name was previously used by Aluin for a chaishop and decorations organization. When hear it for the first time, one of our Hungarian friends interpret it in a way like this: "All You! I Am!".

08 El Klan de los DeDeTe - E.G.O. (with Intro) (3:36)

(from the independent release 'En nuestras manos')

EL KLAN DE LOS DEDETE

el Klan de los
Dedete
en nuestras manos

Written by: Poli 124 (Sergio Hernández Acosta), Baster (Daniel Carrión Lorca)
Produced by: Maski (Roberto Pérez Murillo)
Performed by:
MC: Poli 124
MC: Baster
Scratching: Maski
Recorded at: El Klan de los DeDeTe home studio
Year: 2007
Release URL: http://www.jamendo.com/en/album/6837/
Artist URLs:
http://www.dedete.es/
http://www.myspace.com/basterdedete
http://www.myspace.com/maskidedete
http://www.myspace.com/poli124dedete
Artist contact: basterddt@hotmail.com
License: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/nc-sampling+/1.0/

E.G.O. (with Intro)

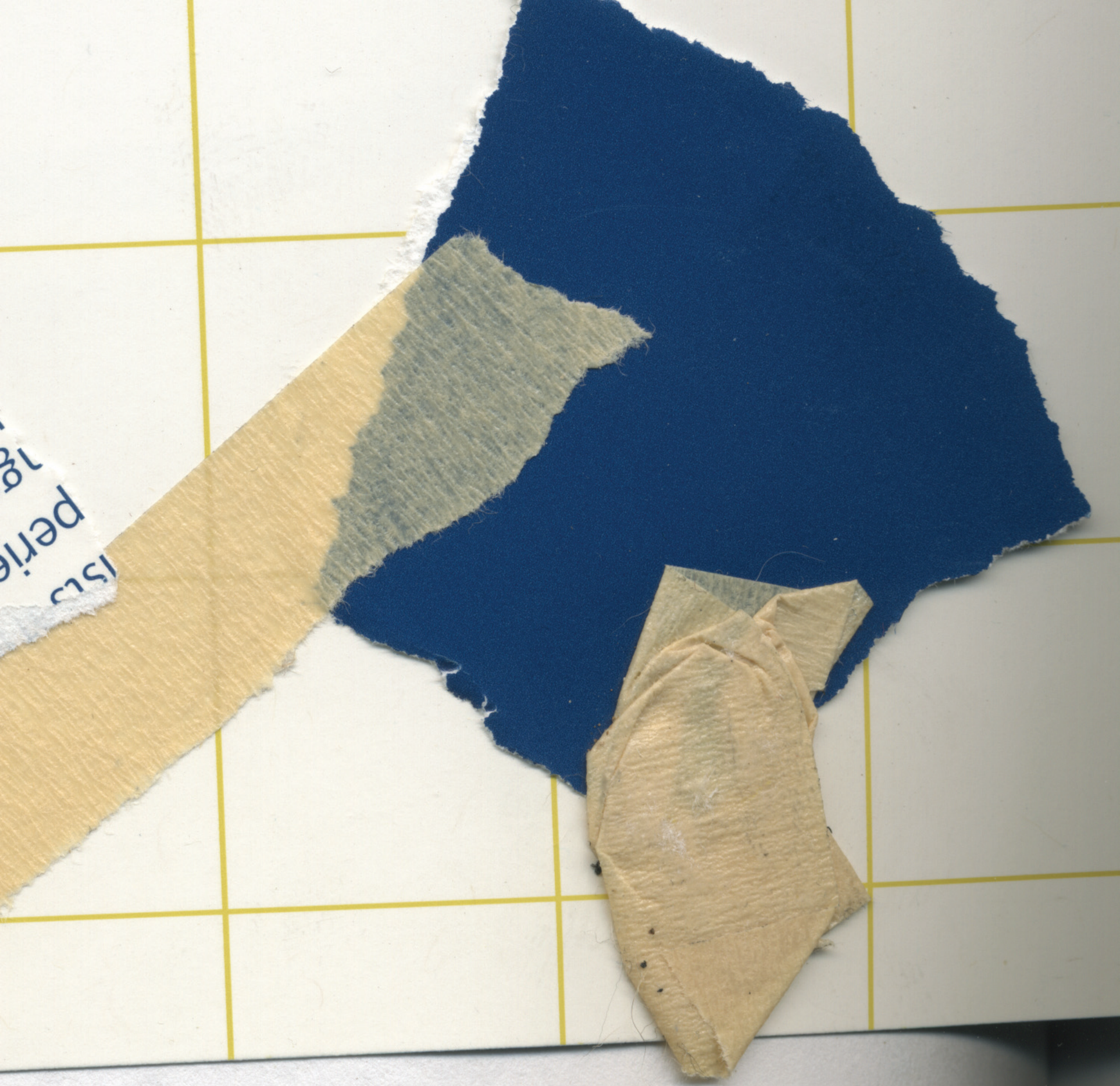
On netBloc Volume 8, I featured an excellent hip-hop artist, Baster. This is his crew.... and just as he didn't let down... as a whole they still deliver the goods. The REAL hip-hop from a Spanish perspective. Listen to those expert cuts by Maski... word.

El Klan de los DeDeTe

DJ/música digital: Maski (30 años)
Música digital (colaborador externo): Gordi-Beats (31 años)
MC: Poli 124 (31 años)

MC: Baster (31 años)

Banda de hip hop en operativo desde 1994. Componentes del grupo en operativo desde 1989.



09 Bangguru - Another 80s
(Extended Remix by Authist & Dub One) (5:06)
(from the iD.EOLOGY release 'Re-iD.d' iD039)

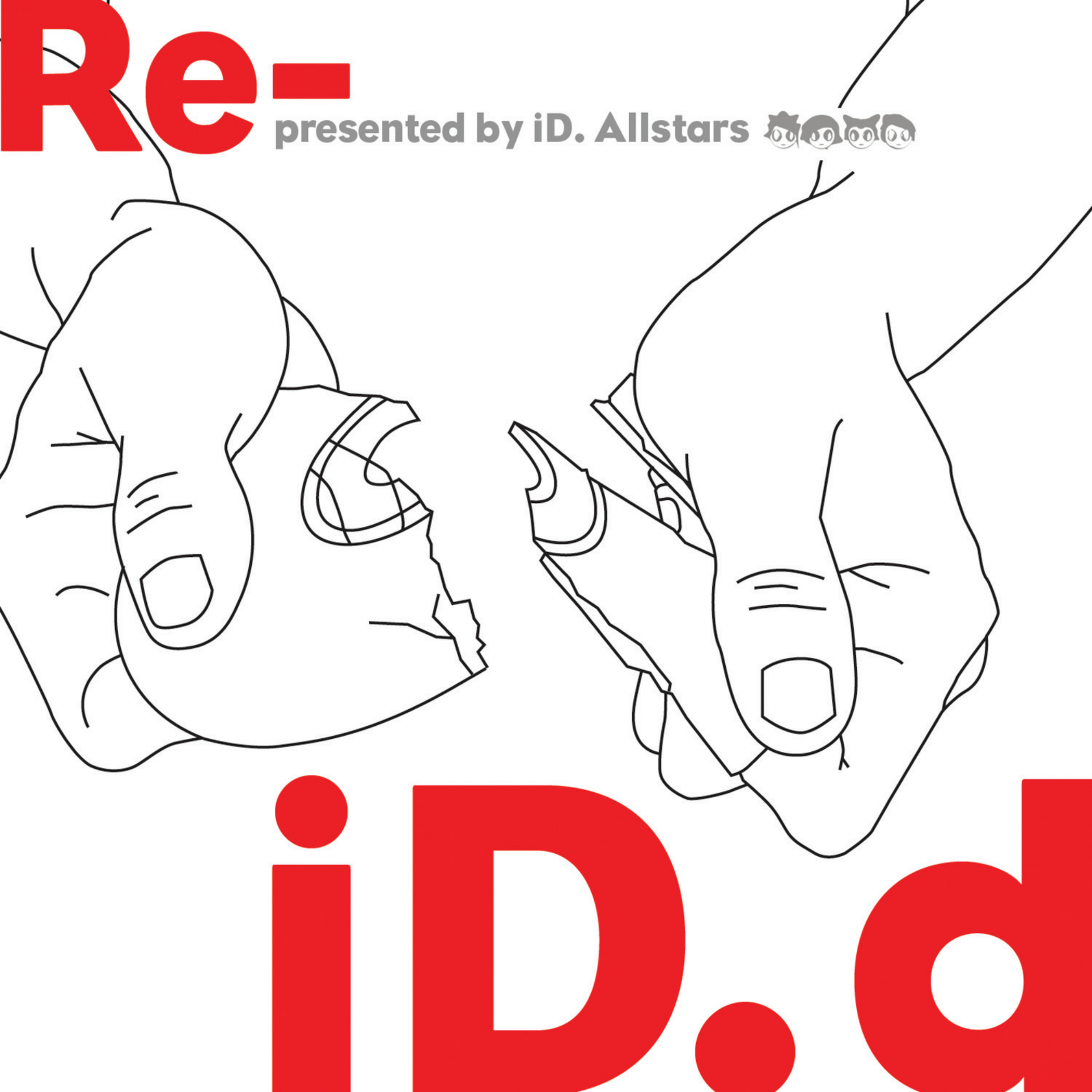
BANGGURU

AUTHIST

KAWAI K4
mK2+
2004/04/03
DUB ONE

Re-

presented by iD. Allstars



iD.d

Original version written by: Bangguru
Remix produced by: Authist & Dub One!
Performed by: Bangguru, Authist & Dub One!
Remix recorded at: Bedroom Studios, Berlin, Germany
Year: 2007
Release URL: http://www.ideology.de/archives/audio000182.php
Artist URLs:
http://www.bangguru.com/
http://www.myspace.com/authistdubone
Netlabel: iD.EOLOGY
Netlabel URL: http://www.ideology.de
License: http://www.ideology.de/archives/000019.php

Another 80s (Extended Remix by Authist & Dub One)

I never planned on this netBloc being the "German netBloc", but it's kind of unofficially become that... no problem with me, Germans seem to be tapping into something... maybe it's in the water? Anyway, straight out of Berlin, Authist & Dub One remixed this one from an already excellent Bangguru original which can be found at their website. This one is ripe and ready for the clubs. Hey DJ! Give it a spin!

Bangguru

A multi-oriented electro-pop music group that's currently working on their second album.

Authist & Dub One

Authist & Dub One! is a Dub-Hop & Remix-Project from Berlin/Germany! We work

together since 3 years and produced over 100 Traxx so far.

iD.EOLOGY

iD is for identity. iD.EOLOGY is a platform for identities. For iD.EOLOGY supplies artists with an iD in order to offer them a spot of their own within virtual space, an opportunity to publish their material. That's why our label strives to create a network, a communication-facility for musicians, graphics-artists, designers, lyricists, listeners and viewers. Simultaneously, the label is a display, offering free access to artistic content, sorted by iDs.

10 The Incognito Traveller - Valletta 1:27 am (4:16)

(from the Konfort Records release 'The Incognito Traveller EP' konfort016)

THE INCOGNITO TRAVELLER EP.

Written and produced by: The Incognito Traveller
Performed by:
Acoustic guitar, percussions, programming: The Incognito Traveller
Trumpet: Malcolm Aiken
Recorded at: Titan Sound, Vancouver, BC. Thanks, Greg 'Stuntman' Mindorff
Year: 2007
Release URL: http://www.discoskonfort.com/netlabel/the-incognito-traveller-ep/
Netlabel: Konfort Records
Netlabel URL: http://www.discoskonfort.com/
License: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.5/mx/

Valletta 1:27 am

Electronic jazz on that other level. This one oozes coolness. It makes you want to hang out at Valletta at 1:27am, precisely. Malcolm's trumpeting would do Miles proud. The Incognito Traveller also deliver wonderfully with the percussion and guitar.

The Incognito Traveller

The Incognito Traveller is a conceptual jazz project that, through organic rhythms and lush jazz textures, creates a cinematic sound environment to travel mentally to.

Everyone travels. It could be a few steps from home like a trip around the world. In every travel situation there's a duality to be discovered: the traveller is at once an individual with thoughts, experiences and an emotional richness... and at the same time is just one of the millions in the world who are moving from one point to another. The person is therefore, in the middle of the masses, just a number, an X... an Incognito Traveller.

Konfort Records

We are a Mexico based musicians collective and record label dedicated to the promotion of electronic music. For the past five years we have been releasing a handful of physical as well as net-exclusive records and organized a series of live events featuring everything from jazzy grooves to left-field experimental music.

Thanks again to the following labels for participating in this netBloc release:

Go, Jukebox!

aerotone

poni republic

OUIM NET.LABEL

KNFRT RECS

jamendo
open your ears

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