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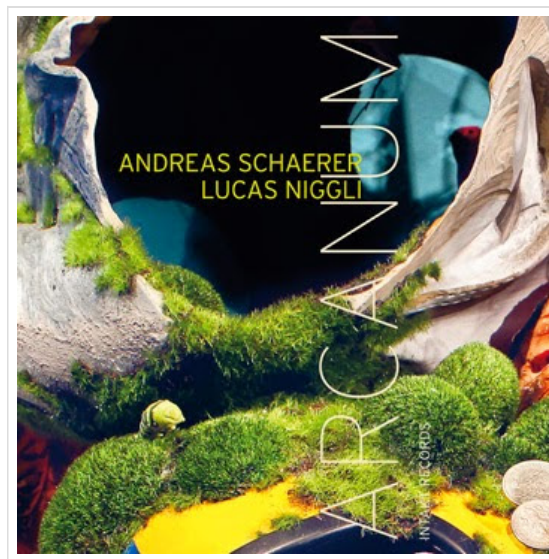
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CD Review: Andreas Schaerer and Lucas Niggli - Arcanum



Andreas Schaerer and Lucas Niggli - *Arcanum*
(Intakt Records 232. CD Review by Eric Ford)

The idea of a duet between voice (augmented and manipulated by electronics) and percussion/drums is appealing and of course stretches back to the dawn of human existence. The eight pieces from the Swiss duo on this CD are improvised, although vocalist **Andreas Schaerer** and drummer/percussionist **Lucas Niggli** clearly decided on a "vibe" for the start of each piece before proceeding. The duo excel in conjuring both violence and tranquility. The meditative tracks - replete with gongs to aid the transition into trance - were my favourites. Very Zen. Some of the more frantic pieces had me laughing aloud, although I know lots of other people who would have been reaching for the "stop" button at these moments. For Schaerer is wont to use his voice for the production of unexpected sounds.

This album goes beyond the bounds of what would conventionally be referred to as "music" and any sound Andreas can produce via his mouth is fair game. Some of it actually reminded me of Clark Terry's "mumbblings" from the 1960's. Andreas can clearly sing and Lucas can clearly play; their collaboration, equally clearly, is about sound, performance and energy more than about "music" per se.

Three of the eight tracks climax with the same thrashy fusion drumming from Niggli, which is (ironically) one of the hazards of improvised music. Without a premeditated structure to ensure different outcomes in different pieces, it's easy to slide into a comfort zone and revert to whatever springs to mind most readily.

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606 Club



BIMHUIS 40!



The duo will be performing on the final night of the EFG London Jazz Festival, 23rd November at Club Inegales

On [Wednesday, October 01, 2014](#)

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From *ImStillAwake* - click pic for the full track

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Interview with Jay Phelps. 22 October 2013

Interview with Jean Toussaint, 12th February 2014

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Interview with Jeff Williams Part 3, 1st

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Barbican Centre

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Jazz at the Oxford, Kentish Town

Kings Place

Loop Collective, Kentish Town

Lower Ground Bar NW6

Map Music, Kentish Town

Musicians' Company Jazz

National Theatre Foyer

Olivers

Pizza Express Dean Street Brochure

Pizza Express, Dean St

Richmond and Twickenham Jazz Club

July 2013

Interview with Jim Hart and Alex Bonney. 1 November 2013

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Interview with Tessa Souter, 8th January 2013

Interview: Dalston Intersect Preview Podcast. 14 November 2013

New book - LondonJazz podcast: Pete Cook - Road Rat's Tips, 26th November 2012

Preview: Gary Smulyan - Heavenly Hours and Gig Preview. 12th August 2013

Ronnie Scott's

South Bank Centre

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St James Studio

The Bull's Head

The Con Cellar, NW1

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Vortex, Dalston

WM Jazz at the O2

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Your suggestion please!!!

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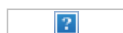
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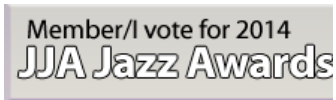
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