

THE VOID OF EXPANSION

TOMAS JÄRMYR + DIRK SERRIES

Bookings: dirkserries@gmail.com

Since 2014 The Void Of Expansion has been creating its own version of instrumental music.

Dirk Serries, coming from an industrial and ambient background, meets Tomas Järmyr, a frenetic and hardhitting jazz drummer. Together they gracefully embark on a mission of further exploring, through improvisation and with great patience, their instrumentation and individual voice in order to make every concert elevate and breed new music.

Regardless of the venue, this band sounds amazing and is truly something one must experience firsthand. TOMAS JÄRMYR: DRUMS. Born 1987 in Sweden, currently based in Norway. The short story is that he's been playing drums since the age of 2. Moved around in Sweden, studied music and ended up in Norway. Here he studied at the Jazz Conservatory at the NTNU university in Trondheim, where he also started to teach right after graduating. With one foot in rock/metal and the other in jazz/improv, combined with wild creativity, extreme energy and presence, Tomas drumming is something unique. Played/plays in MOTORPSYCHO, ZU, BLACK MOON CIRCLE, THE MAXX, **ÅRABROT** and **YODOK** III.

DIRK SERRIES: ELECTRIC GUITAR, EFFECTS, AMPS. The Belgian-based artist Dirk Serries has experimented with music on the border between avant-garde, industrial, experimental and ambient for more than 38 years. He released his earliest work (1984) behind the pseudonym vidnaObmana up to 2007 when he closed the book on this project (realizing an extensive discography). Other projects like Fear Falls Burning and his Microphonics series made him collaborate with several kev-plavers like Steven Wilson, Justin K. Broadrick, Cult Of Luna, Steve Roach and toured extensively on the sides of Jesu, MONO, Low, My Bloody Valentine and Cult Of Luna.

In October 2013 Dirk Serries re-booted his classic vidnaObmana ambient sound from the mid eighties/ early nineties. In contrary to his original music that was mostly synth-based, this ambient music is constructed on electric guitar. Music that flows from its discreet origins: sonic purity, washes of harmony, and organic

textures which slow time to a phase of transcendence.

Acclaimed albums were under his own name on Projekt Records and his EPITAPH on Consouling Sounds.

However, being a follower of (free) jazz for years, when meeting Tomas Järmyr (Motorpsycho) and Kristoffer Lo to form YODOK III his confidence in improvisation boosted and slowly shifted from his meticulously executed subtle ambience to being a full improviser on mostly the guitar. As heavily influenced by legendary improviser Derek Bailey, over the past years Dirk manifested him as a strong and new leading figure in the Belgian impro scene and works extensively together with some of the best and modern improvisors like saxophonists Alan Wilkinson, Rodrigo Amado, John Dikeman, Colin Webster, drummers Tomas Järmyr,

Steve Noble, Tom Malmendier, George Hadow, **Onno Govaert and Andrew** Lisle, tuba player Kristoffer Lo, viola player Benedict Taylor, Peter Jacquemyn and Gonçalo Almeida (double bass), Kris Vanderstraeten (percussion), Patrick De **Groote and Charlotte Keeffe** (trumpet), Martina Verhoeven (piano) etc. He also runs the A New Wave Of Jazz label, dedicated to free improvisation and minimal avant-garde.

Through his experience in the free improvisation Dirk transformed his solo ambient music, originally constructed melticulously by writing strict motives before performing, to being able to improvise 200% and still create his trademark ambient music for which he is recognized worldwide.

DISCOGRAPHY

Ashes And Blues (LP, New Wave Of Jazz 2014)
Governed by Decay (LP/CD, Dunk! Records 2019)
Escaper (2x12", DUNK! Records 2024)

Concert Chronology:

20.11.2022 - CAFE CENTRAL (Brussels, Belgium)

19.11.2022 - JAZZBLAZZT (Neeritter, The Netherlands)

17.05.2017 - DUNK! FESTIVAL (Zottegem, Belgium)

10.05.2015 - THEATRE NO99 (Talilnn, Estonia)

09.04.2015 - TARTU JAZZ CLUB (Tartu, Estonia)

30.08.2014 - KNAUS (Trondheim, Norway)

29.08.2014 - BYSCENEN (Trondheim, Norway)

16.02.2014 - DE COMPANIE/NOORDKADE (Veghel, The Netherlands)

14.02.2014 - DE SINGER (Rijkevorsel, Belgium)

13.02.2014 - CINEPALACE (Kortrijk, Belgium)

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