

Fri, 6.11.-Sun, 6.12.2020

The ZKM | Sound Pavilion *The Morning Line* is playing the new album *Point* (2020) by Yello in a unique 3D sound environment

New music for the media art work at Platz der Menschenrechte

From November 6 to December 6, a special program curated by Peter Weibel will be presented via the Sound Pavilion *The Morning Line*; a musical experience never heard before: The 14th studio album *Point* by the Swiss duo Yello (Dieter Meier and Boris Blank), released at the end of August, will be heard in a spatialized version via the Sound Pavilion's multi-channel loudspeaker system.

In close cooperation between Boris Blank and the msm studio group Munich, a sound mix of the 12 new pieces by Yello for the surround sound format Dolby Atmos was created this year. This unique sound mix has become the starting point for an adaptation for the Sound Pavilion *The Morning Line* with the kind courtesy by the musicians Boris Blank and Dieter Meier. It was realized by sound engineer Ben Miller at the ZKM | Hertz Lab.

The Morning Line consists of 41 loudspeakers and 12 subwoofers which are guided by a central control unit. It was especially designed for the rendering of room-filling electroacoustic compositions by artist Matthew Richie as well as architects Aranda\Lasch and the Advanced Geometry Unit (AGU) of ARUP. The installation is an oversized sound body which is accessible to the visitors. Tony Myatt and the Music Research Centre of York University designed the unique sound system. Under the direction of Peter Weibel, Chairman of the ZKM, additional interdisciplinary sound experiments and collaborative projects are taking place regularly.

For Peter Weibel, the latest enhancement of *The Morning Line*'s repertoire is of great importance: »This is an important and good contribution to the Covid-19 crisis, because you can listen to music outdoors. So in a way, we're doing an all-day digital openair concert with Yello, just as I intended, without the presence of the musicians, who couldn't play what we're hearing here live because the music is created in the studio. It is therefore an ideal contribution for the Covid-19-related tele-society.«

So far, more than 40 compositions by renowned artists have been created especially for *The Morning Line*, e.g. by Mark Fell, Michael von Hausswolff, Florian Hecker, Carsten Nicolai, Terre

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Press Contact

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Thaemlitz or Jana Winderen. The sound archive is constantly being expanded with new sound experiments and compositions.

Yello's new compositions will be heard exclusively for a whole month through the Sound Pavilion. The entire album *Point* will be played (see title list). The screen at the subspace of the Cube shows which piece is being played.

Titles:

- 1. Waba Duba, 3'07"
- 2. The Vanishing Of Peter Strong, 3'22"
- 3. Way Down, 3'19"
- 4. Out Of Sight, 3'03"
- 5. Arthur Spark, 3'35"
- 6. Big Boy's Blues, 3'27"
- 7. Basic Avenue, 2'55"
- 8. Core Shift, 3'00"
- 9. Spinning My Mind, 3'19"
- 10. Hot Pan, 3'17"
- 11. Rush For Joe, 3'25"
- 12. Siren Singing, 3'43"

The ZKM thanks Dieter Meier, Boris Blank and Peter Vitzthum for providing the album and the kind cooperation.

More information on *The Morning Line*:

https://zkm.de/en/artwork/the-morning-line https://zkm.de/en/event/2013/09/the-morning-line

Press kit alongside the Donation in 2013:

https://zkm.de/en/presskit/2013/the-morning-line

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ANNEX

From the press release for the album »Point« by Yello:

A Yello album is like a magical mystery tour. We may know where the journey starts but we have no idea where it will end. Their latest, "Point", is no different.

Dieter Meier and Boris Blank could have sprung from the drawing board of Tin Tin-inventor Hergé. One, madcap sound professor Blank, dreams up a ceaseless stream of music which plunges the other, globetrotting gentleman adventurer Meier, into a frenzy of Dadaist story-telling. One, Blank, is happiest alone in the studio with his music. The other, Meier, is a citizen of the world who rarely stands still long enough to say hello to his shadow. Meier and Blank have made music together for forty years. In all this time they have not grown a day older or – heaven forbid! – a jot more sensible.

»Point« was created in exactly the same way as the previous thirteen Yello albums and hits like »Oh Yeah«, »The Race« or »The Rhythm Divine«. »I like to compare our music with paintings«, says Blank. »I constantly paint new sound worlds in the studio.« Drawing from a library of countless beats, melody fragments and instrumental parts, Blank arranges and rearranges these in ever subtler combinations. »Once I have collected sixty or seventy new tracks, I ask myself: which of these should we send to the exhibition? Which of these would go nicely together on an album?«

»When Boris is immersed in his music, he is like a kid in the sandpit, « reports Meier affectionately. »I've developed a dozen tricks to enter the studio without making him jump out of his skin. « Once a selection of tracks is made, Meier settles down with his ancient Hermes »Baby« typewriter and begins to rattle out an associative flow of words. »The typewriter is an erotic tool«, he says. »It is the act of typing that pulls me into the life of the song. «

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Their last album, »Toy«, sounded unusually »cosmic«. Now, Yello have returned to earth. The joyous swing and nonsensical wit of »Waba Duba« sets the tone and, like »Peter Strong«, carries an echo of the early days of »You Gotta Say Yes Another Excess«. »Arthur to Spark« performs the typically Yello-esque circus trick of blending absurd words with irresistible dance beats and a feeling of wistful longing. »Big Boy's Blues« is a mutant blues with Meier in Leonard Cohen-mood. »Hot Pan« evokes, and subverts, old Spaghetti Western memories. »Rush for Joe« serves up a glorious trombone solo. Finally, there is the eerily beautiful »Siren Singing« which, according to Chinese guest singer Fifi Rong, is about »unconditional love to ease the suffering of mankind«. Yello ideas, like sparks, fly off in all directions. And yet, they are all unmistakably part of the same painting.

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