



CLUSTER

A P R O P O S C L U S T E R

Reissue (originally released 1990)
CD / vinyl (180g) / download

Release date: May 2, 2014



Label: Bureau B
Distributor: Indigo
Cat. no.: BB171

EAN CD 4047179883726
 LP 4047179883719

Indigo no.: CD 98837-2
 LP 98837-1

Tracklisting:

- 1 Grenzgänger (7:19)
- 2 Emmental (3:17)
- 3 Gespiegelt (6:49)
- 4 Falls (2:48)
- 5 Apropos Cluster (21:49)

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Cover & press kit download:
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Key info:

- Cluster (Dieter Moebius, Hans-Joachim Roedelius) are considered pioneers of electronic music and key Krautrock protagonists. In the late 1960s, together with Konrad Schnitzler as the trio Kluster, they changed the world of music for ever with their radical improvisations. Having split from Schnitzler, Moebius and Roedelius continued as Cluster, releasing eight further milestones of electronic and ambient music up until 1981, two of them with Brian Eno. A hiatus lasting almost a decade was brought to an end in 1990 when Cluster made a surprise comeback with "Apropos Cluster".
- Liner notes by Asmus Tietchens.
- Originally released 1990 on Curious Music.
- Available on CD, 180 gram vinyl and download

"Apropos Cluster" was released in Coralville, Iowa, in deepest provincial America. Youthful enthusiast Russ Curry (sic) set up the Curious Music label on his own initiative to release this very album. Emboldened by the spirit of the independent movement, he paid for manufacturing himself and took care of CD distribution, as well as doing his best to ensure that a few copies made their way to Europe. In common with so many independent label operations, Russ Curry lacked the financial clout to market "Apropos Cluster" effectively. PR and advertising were out of the question. Hence the album flew predominantly under the radar, reaching potential supporters more or less by chance. Or not at all, which was a crying shame, given that Cluster had risen like a phoenix from the ashes, picking up the creative thread where they had left off and taking it to an ingenious new level. Nobody would have guessed that a decade had passed since their last LP „Curiosum“.

"Apropos Cluster" saw the duo arrive in the digital world. Dieter Moebius and Hans-Joachim Roedelius had indeed used digital sounds and corresponding recording technology on their solo albums in the Eighties, so they were no strangers to the latest in electronic techniques. "Apropos Cluster" was recorded in Roedelius' home studio in Austria; Cluster combined samplers, grand piano and analogue synthesizers as only they knew how. The listener is invited into the legendary Cluster cosmos, a considerably more complex and fantastic place than it was ten years earlier. Horizons appear more distant, paths more labyrinthine. Moebius and Roedelius paid no heed to contemporary trends in electronic music, instead continuing to trace their own trajectory in a fathomless, surreal world for which they alone possessed the coordinates. Sonic and musical details abound to an almost overwhelming degree. One moment up close, the next far away, something new appears in the distance.

Asmus Tietchens