

SOPHIE AGNEL / JOKE LANZ / MICHAEL VATCHER

Sophie Agnel: piano
Joke Lanz: turntables
Michael Vatcher: drums



Unreleased studio album (not mastered):
<https://soundcloud.com/user-734930978/sets/agnel-lanz-vatcher-upcoming>

Festival Météo 2016:
<https://youtu.be/1XaneqGcKmk>

"Eccentric, ironic, kaleidoscopic labyrinths of weird and subversive sounds!"
- Eyal Hareuveni / The Free Jazz Collective

"One pianist not seduced by froth is France's Sophie Agnel, whose subsequent set, with Lanz and Vatcher, was easily Artacts' most robust." - Ken Waxman / Jazz World

Contact:

Sophie Agnel
sophieagnel2@gmail.com
<https://www.sophieagnel.com/>
+33 609752556

Joke Lanz
suddeninfant@gmx.net
<http://www.suddeninfant.com/>
+49 17666070823

Biographies:

SOPHIE AGNEL (Paris)

With solid training as a classical musician, Sophie Angel took a close interest in modern jazz before committing in the early Nineties to the shifting, deliciously uncertain ground of free improvisation, thanks to her fascination for the powers of expression displayed by a few great keyboard-heretics such as Keith Tippett, Fred Van Hove or Christine Wodrascka.

Taking a look through the prism of improvised music, Sophie Agnel began reworking the prepared piano techniques imagined by John Cage in the field of contemporary music, and from that point she would busy herself *"introducing the prosaicism of the contemporary world into the belly of western musical refinement itself"*, and transform her instrument into a sort of "extensive prep-piano" or "extended piano", thereby laying the foundations of a radically materialist personal universe that is by turns lyrical, abstract and sensualist.

Moving from the demanding exercise of playing solo to multiple encounters with some of the greatest masters of contemporary improvisation in their original surroundings - Michel Doneda, Daunik Lazro, Olivier Benoit, eRikm, Roger Turner, Phil Minton, John Butcher, John Edwards, Steve Noble - the pianist would also gradually venture into those border-zones where genres fade into the distance... Sophie Agnel has also produced a few of her own shows for general audiences such as: *Le Piano-Marteau*, which staged the sound-space in a subtle game of mirrors; a collaboration with choreographer Josef Nadj (*Etc. etc.*); and also the music she composed for the stage-adaptation of Charles Reznikov's *Testimony* directed by Henri Jules Julien.

JOKE LANZ (Berlin)

Coming from a Punk music background Joke Lanz started in the mid 80's to play Experimental- and Noise music.

Best known for his international acclaimed project 'Sudden Infant', Lanz is presenting his work since 30 years all over the world. Born in Switzerland and currently operating out of Berlin, he is one of the most prolific and profound artists working in the border zones where performance and body art meet Improvisation and Noise.

As a turntablist he creates autonomous sound-cells that melt into a language free of any function. He combines ritual reductionism with anarchistic playfulness, atmospheric soundscapes with cut-up noise and physicalness with unpredictability. Massive scratches, walls of sound, grooves, loops, noises and voice modulations!

Joke Lanz collaborated with:

Shelley Hirsch, Christian Marclay, Peter Kowald, Olaf Rupp, Ken Vandermark, Johannes Bauer, Lasse Marhaug, Jorge Sanchez-Chiong, Strotter Inst, Christian Weber, Charlotte Hug, Audrey Chen, Ute Wassermann, DJ Olive, Sophie Agnel, dieb13, eRikM, Martin Tétreault, Eklekto Ensemble Geneva, Alexandre Babel, Christian Wolfarth, Jonas Kocher, Mat Pogo, Kazuhisa Uchihashi, Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, just to name a few.

MICHAEL VATCHER (Amsterdam)

California native Michael Vatcher, now residing in Amsterdam, quickly progressed from hitting household furniture to taking vibraphone and snare drum lessons as a child. In California, he played with reedist Michael Moore, with whom Vatcher has had a long musical relationship, John Handy, and Terry Gibbs. After spending a year in New York City, Vatcher moved to Holland in 1981.

Since arriving in Holland, Vatcher has played with such groups as Trio Braam De Joode Vatcher, the Tristan Honsinger Sextet, the Martin Altena Ensemble, John Zorn, The Ex, Roof (with Phil Minton, Tom Cora, and Luc Ex), and Van Dyke Parks. Vatcher is also a regular accompanist with the School for New Dance Development in Amsterdam, and has an ongoing musical relationship with dancers Katie Duck and Eileen Standley.