

Freiband

"Stainless Steel"



LP @ 33 RPM and variable speed
[side A 21:29 min, side B variable lengths] + 2 locked grooves

Track listing :

A1. Stainless
B1. Steel

(p) 2011 ini.itu #1101

250 copies, hand numbered

ini.itu is releasing a new vinyl only LP, the 8th of its catalogue, composed by **Freiband**

- **Freiband** is one of the long lasting projects of **Frans de Waard**, who is making music since more than 25 years under many aliases and in different line-ups, the most well-known being **Kapotte Muziek** (with Roel Meelkop and Peter Duimelinks), **Goem** (same team, different tools), **THU20** (same, augmented by Jac van Bussel and Jos Smolders), **Beequeen** (w/ Freek Kinkelaar), and more recently **Wieman** (formerly known as **Zèbra**) (w/ Roel Meelkop), **Ezdanitoff** (w/ Wouter Jaspers) and **Tobacconists** (w/ Scott Foust from Idea Fire Company). Solo he has been active under his own name, **Shifts** and of course **Freiband**. His other activities include : editor and writer for **Vital Weekly**, programmer at Geluidswerkplaats in Nijmegen, organizer of the residencies Brombrom and director of the labels **Korm Plastics**, **Moll** and **Plinkety Plonk**.
- the name Freiband itself is picked from **Asmus Tietchens'** album Daseinsverfehlung, on which he explored sounds created by rubbing tape freely on magnetic heads. Frans de Waard transferred the concept to the digital field and now mostly uses that name for his computer-based pieces.

What Freiband proposes here is 2 sides of radically reworked gamelan :

- Side A seems to progress through an acid bath and take the magnifying glass to enhance the digital decays, evoking various stages of textural corrosions. Through these aggressive and irreverent treatments, the naturally metallic harmonics are by twist and turns abruptly dismantled and fractured into crunchy, dense and fuzzy fireworks. Despite the stop & go transitions this hard-edged and raw piece still holds a nice unity across the digital errs and disturbances.
- on side B, through some arcane wirings, some machines end up spitting out shifting binary patterns with a somewhat alienating feeling. Proof that electronic music can be minimal and eschew the 4/4 dance floor pattern, in favour of some dry and uncompromising "*Unerforschtes Gebiet*" between minimal beats and Steve Reich' early tape compositions.

this LP further expands the horizon of ini.itu, successfully interrogating the link between south-east asian instruments and electronic contemporary music. Maybe something to file along **Hecker**, **Pita**, **Mika Vaino**, **Fennesz** or **Alva Noto's** Xerrox LPs.

p.s. Frans de Waard will also simultaneously release a companion 3" on his **Moll** imprint, with a totally different track from the same sessions that couldn't be included on the LP. That track is a spectral exploration of the higher frequencies, followed by a pile-up of gamelan sounds.

(very) Selective discography :

Freiband	Microbes	Ritornell	2001	CD
	Homeward	Bottrop-Boy	2002	CD
	Leise	Crónica	2006	CD
Freiband & Machinefabriek	Oahu	Low Point	2008	CD
Frans de Waard	Vijf Profielen	Alluvial	2007	CD
Shifts	Trees/Leaves	Entr'acte	2007	LP
	Eight Line	E.R.S.	2000	LP

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