

RELEASE:
JUNE 19TH, 2020

jacob anderskov anterior current

solo piano



Jacob Anderskov takes on European 20th century modernism. In the optimal studio setting of The Village, he recorded note-by-note versions of pieces by Ligeti, Stockhausen, Webern, Boulez, etc. Then, related to each piece, he did free improvisations on the vibe, the structure, and the texture of it. On the album, the order of events is switched around: first we hear free improvisations, later some of the textures and language types reappear, to reveal their origin in the European “new music” repertoire.

The sonic approach is a statement in itself: We are far from a regular composed new music piano album: The microphones, preamps and converters were chosen for their warmth, not any idealized “neutrality”. The active attitude to recording, compression and reverb makes even the note-by-note renditions clearly positioned in relation to the 20th Century Canon.

Anderskov explains, somewhat controversially: “The sounding result here is a less Eurocentric, less Colonialist soundscape than what has been the defining Modernist norm since Pierre Boulez. I think of Anterior Current’s production as a post-Eno, post-Olivieros statement, rather than an echo of Deutsche Grammophon. Furthermore, I imagine this entire album as challenging the strict concepts surrounding the European through-composed tradition - especially regarding the fractures between composition, improvisation and production. It was the unlucky fate of the modernist tradition to disregard the inclusion of the musician’s improvisational and interpretational ideas in the work – which might have been among the key reasons for the gradual marginalisation of this self-perceived music of the future.” Is Anterior Current his attempt at saving modernism from itself?

Notes on titles: Anterior Current: A previous present? The front of the stream? Does this tradition still exist as a voice of our time, and is the scene surrounding it ready to embrace improvisation, production, and the present? Most of the track titles are anagrams: Akut-schönes = Stockhausen = Chaos-Künste, etc.

Jacob Anderskov has received numerous Danish Music Awards and was recently nominated for the Nordic Council Music Price as a composer, and appointed Professor at RMC, Cph.

Musician: “Herr Stockhausen, how shall I know when I’m vibrating with the rhythm of the universe?”

Stockhausen: “I will tell you”

Album info:

Artist: Jacob Anderskov
Title: ANTERIOR CURENT
Catalogue Number: ILK303
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Label: ILK
Barcode: 5706274010299
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Tracks:

Randolf Moment
Ecrie “Clan”
Alfa Ruin
Akutschönes Chaoskünste
Stockhausen: Klavierstück III
Prude lamb - cool Eel
Lou’s buzzed too, Antoine
Unfair Prälat
Noten Warben (No tan, Webern)
Ligeti: Arc en Ciel
Boulez: Douze Notation - 12: Lent
Pärt: Fur Alina

Total time: 40 minutes

All compositions by Jacob Anderskov
except where indicated

Recorded at The Village, Dec. 2018.
Recording, mix & mastering by
August Wanngren.
Cover Artwork by neue.pink
Produced by Jacob Anderskov

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