



DELL LILLINGER WESTERGAARD “GRAMMAR II”

Release: 6th of December 2019 PLAIST (EDEL)

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GRAMMAR II

GRAMMAR II by DLW (Dell Lillinger Westergaard) pushes the boundaries of experimental music yet again. The album documents the progress by the three musicians (Christopher Dell vibraphone, Christian Lillinger drums, Jonas Westergaard bass) over the last seven years. This stems from the theory and practices developed since the release of GRAMMAR on gligg records in 2012.

GRAMMAR II was recorded live on June 12th, 2019 at Loft in Cologne. Christopher Dell: “GRAMMAR II examines and experiments on structural framework as a set of strategic musical viewpoints that inform the practices of DLW as a community of players.”

At the heart of the recording lies the production of music both as improvisational form-making as well as technology. In the process, the recording documents amongst other things the emergence of musical concepts through the framework of structure. Furthermore, it examines the identification with improvisation and the exploration of the outer limits of rhythmical, melodic and harmonic control. Finally, it sets out new areas in the realm of music research and collaboration.

Given the ambitious nature of the album, the release on Christian Lillinger’s label PLAIST is no coincidence. This platform expresses the ever inquisitive, questioning approach, which underlies the methodology of the three players. GRAMMAR II allows for complete expression of artistic freedom. This is reflected in the fact that all production aspects (recording, post-production, release date, design, etc) have been overseen by the ensemble.

What appears to be a formal challenge for the listener at first, reveals itself to be a composition, which is highly complex yet thoroughly structured. Andreas Müller (Deutschlandfunk) sees this aspect as an adventure in the area of tonality: “*These three lead us over cracked planes, through dark valleys and still there are always little pockets of melodies blossoming along the way.*” Roland Schmenner (Fidelity Magazin) interprets the music’s richness as follows: “*The listener does not simply hear abstract structures. Due to the intensity of the collaboration, emotional and physical aspects superimpose themselves on to the structure. Thereby, grammatical structures are filled with meaning and with life.*”

The music breaks new ground as Christopher Dell explains: “GRAMMAR II’ is formulated in line with the theory of improvisation technology and open form: a paradigm shift in the making of music, at every scale envisaged to help us define ourselves and position ourselves in the time and space in which we live.”

All three musicians ensure that the focal point of the music always remains the ensemble. The purpose of improvisation is to serve the music. Andreas Müller understands it as follows: *“The music combines high density with floating lightness at the same time. Three musicians become one. Egos are non-existent. This is more than a collective. These musicians form a new organism.”*

Roland Schmenner summarises: *“GRAMMAR II‘ creates its own system. This is not simply self-referential, but it communicates from the players to the listener.*

“This is music on a next level; made in Berlin”, concludes Andreas Müller
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About **DELL LILLINGER WESTERGAARD (DLW)**

The trio DLW combines energetic playing with structural composition in real time. The interaction results in high energy that materializes in different layers of sounds, relationscapes. Form comes into being through musical production. Thereby, the trio transcends the usual dichotomy of rhythm section vs. solo player.

Their recording “GRAMMAR“ (released on gligg-records) demonstrates the trios specific structural approach to form making in manifold perspectives. Other projects include their collaboration with electronic musician and producer Johannes Brecht as DBLW, which is documented in their release “BOULEZ MATERIALISM” from 2018(PLAIST).

Line-Up:

Christopher Dell - Vibraphone

Christian Lillinger - Drums

Jonas Westergaard Bass

Tracks:

01. Duration - Structure I

02. Duration - Structure II

03. Duration - Structure III

04. Duration - Structure IV

DELL LILLINGER WESTERGAARD „GRAMMAR II

is released on PLAIST (EDEL)

and will be available as gatefold double vinyl (limited edition), CD und digitally

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