

CHRISTIAN LILLINGER – OPEN FORM FOR SOCIETY LIVE

Release: 7th AUGUST 2020 PLAIST (EDEL)



Open Form For Society Live documents the live realisation of Christian Lillinger's most elaborate studio recording. The project premiered on October 19th 2019 at Donaueschinger Musiktage and features an ensemble of ten international trail-blazing musicians. The end passage of "Aorta" featured on this album is taken from there. The majority of the recording, however, is taken from the concert at Jazzfest Berlin 2019 on November 1st 2019.

The compositions are a starting point for reinterpretation of the piece. The aim was not to repeat the recording but rather to completely reinvent it, as Christian Lillinger points out: "It was important to me to keep room for variation and improvisation, and thereby advance the musical ideas."

Naturally, the sound is rougher compared to the studio album and its extravagant post-production. The recording forms part of the reinterpretation of the album version and becomes a complement to it. "Of course, there was the challenge to do justice to the composition with regards to the sound in this different environment", adds Christian. Even the sound engineer was part of the concept. He pitched the key instruments, mixed the sound dramaturgically or distorted the tonal image completely, all in real-time.

Ensemble changes, which arose from clashing commitments by the musicians, was a blessing in disguise as it created the opportunity for a radical interpretation of the music. This way, the pieces differ strongly from their counterparts of the studio album. Due to the changing ensemble morphing takes place and solos become, at times, longer. The first piece "OFFS (live)" is, in fact, a completely new composition not found on the studio recording. By giving improvisation and variation more space to unfold, the music overall is much more playful and richer.

The audience also played an essential part at the concert as well as for the recording, as through their interaction with the ensemble, they helped elevate the performance to a new level. Furthermore, the 52 minutes of continuous playing gave the music a different energy as every piece is played in reference to the previous one and changes the attitude.

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Ensemble:

Christian Lillinger – Drums (Germany)

Kaja Draksler – Upright Piano (Slovenia)

Cory Smythe – Grand Piano (USA)

Elias Stemeseder – Synthesizer, Piano (Austria)

Christopher Dell – Vibraphone (Germany)

Roland Neffe – Marimbaphone, Vibraphone, Glockenspiel (Germany)

Lucy Railton – Cello (UK)

Petter Eldh – Bass, Electric Bass (Sweden)

Robert Landfermann – Double Bass (Germany)

Ron Stabinsky – Synthesizer (USA)

Antonis Anissegos – Grand Piano (Greece)

Composition and Concept by Christian Lillinger

Christian Lillinger „Open Form For Society Live“ is released on PLAIST (EDEL) as Double Vinyl (Limited Edition, 180g), CD and digitally.

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