



Artist: DENZEL + HUHN
Album: AMOR FATI
Format: CD | LP | Digital
Label: DENOVALI
Cat. No. DEN396
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Tracklist:
01. Migrän
02. Neuro Brettinger
03. North South Hub
04. Seitliches Denken
05. Elegoït
06. Root Milk
07. Phatalie
07. Phatalie
08. Schwimmoper
09. Digitox
10. Bineri
11. Spenderton
12. Vortuner

Loosely based on Nietzsche and with a big wink, Denzel + Huhn finally releases a new long-playing record after ten years, some of them partly soaked in pandemic and lockdowns.

The fact that the wait was worth it should only be mentioned here for the sake of form. Anyone who knows the Berlin duo of Bert-ram Denzel and Erik Huhn knows that quality takes precedence over quantity in their acoustic creation.

With the notion of „Amor Fati“ Nietzsche wanted to make the highest affirmation of life more tangible and put it into words. Denzel + Huhn now want to turn their loudspeakers back towards the world.

It's more electronics than esotericism, and marks a return to their musical beginnings.

The two have been making music as a duo since 1999. But their musical liaison goes back even further, to the early 90s and to a fateful encounter at Café Adler at Checkpoint Charlie.

This was followed by joint work in the experimental formation „Ornament & Verbrechen“ – a project in which Erik had been active since the late 80s, and from which groups such as To Rococo Rot and Tarwater later emerged. After its dissolution, they worked with Brad Hwang in the trio „Triplum“ until the late nineties.

The first three Denzel + Huhn recordings were released between 2001 and 2007 on the label City Centre Offices, which operates out of Berlin and Manchester. Their last, „Brom“, was released in 2015 on the Dortmund label Oktaf. „Amor Fati“ is now their fifth release and the first on Denovali Records.

In „Amor Fati“, anyone who has followed the D+H discography up to this point might feel reminded of the brittle mini-dramas of D+H's first two releases „Filet“ or „Time Is A Good Thing.“ Fragmented tracks that draw their strength from their scarcity. Whether you're listening again closely or enjoying these deliberately reduced and urban-sounding tracks for the first time, you will not pass by the new record unscathed. Denzel + Huhn barricaded themselves in a studio with three musician friends in 2019 for an opulent recording session. But the resulting material was ultimately found to be too playful and improvised. The verdict: Back to the roots.

These new 12 tracks were created in a relatively short time, after a longer and illness-related hiatus. Sound building blocks, abstract sound samples and a penchant for rudimentary things come together here to form an impressive mosaic of beats, keys, clicks and noise. Atmospherically, „Amor Fati“ takes us over long motorways, through deep concrete gorges and at times also into the club – a Berlin record reminiscent of the golden years of the city's electronics at the turn of the millennium. Where only the piano in „Migräne“ and tiny drum snippets remain of the original recording session, there are countless sound fractals on the album which can only have come from the Denzel + Huhn pen, and which are ready to carry their trend-resistant sound confidently into the next decade.

Praise for Denzel + Huhn:

„It's rare to encounter a record with the quiet majesty of Paraport, a record whose discipline and potent imagination augment its musicality from start to finish. It's obliquely, comprehensively catchy: having listened to it, I can't get its sounds or ideas out of my head. Don't miss it.“ (tiny mixtapes 4.5/5)

„Somewhere between .snd's seriousness, a playful and charming reminiscences of a world called ‚indie‘, and a fascination for obviously Berlin-inspired dub-metaphors, d+h create their own sonic universe, experimental of sorts, heart-grabbing for sure.“ (forced exposure)

„Crafting every record with an ever impressive sense of patience and thoroughness where our era's (...) shifting from jazz tropes up to broken-beat rhythms and onto electronica ballads (...) exudes an instantly lovable pop fragrance.“ (inverted audio)

„Fans of anything from Fennesz to SND to To Rococo Rot and back should delve deeper. Awesome.“ (boomkat)

„at once clever in its lateral thought and easy on the ear, benefitting above all from the wise aesthetic judgement of its makers.“ (the wire)

„On their records they safely perform their mini-dramas in the middle of the room“ (Spex)

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