

RECHENZENTRUM BACKROUND

(english + german)

The group consists of three people:

Christian Conrad (music, sound design)

Lillevän (moving imagery)

Marc Weiser (music, composition)

Live performances of Rechenzentrum feature:

Lillevän - film

Marc Weiser - audio

Formed at the Documenta '97, Rechenzentrum search for new processes of music/moving image production, while refining forms of presentation which create on-stage dialogue between audio and video. At the outset of Rechenzentrum we decided and defined our project as a "band" in which audio and video are equally important; we use video as an instrument, and we treat music visually. Animations, quicktime movies and DVDs are integral components of our finished work, not bonuses or enhancements. With each release we have moved closer to our ideal of a fused, symbiotic aural/visual product, thus our forthcoming DVD release on mille plateaux is very exciting.

Influences on us were various artistic directions, Lettrisme, Dada... also Burroughs' Cut-Up techniques, Punk and others. The common threads for us in these directions were on the one hand: the search for what lies beneath the surface of the music or the moving image (the samples from film and music we choose for their potentiality, not their hookline). On the other hand, we have always been interested in taking communication of music and entertainment to other levels, questioning the role of artist, the role of public personality.

We release material in numerous formats, testing the possibilities and limitations of each, often involving cooperations with artists based in other media/genres. We sometimes work with choreographers and dancers, the projected moving image being the only source of light on stage, all sound derived from live intervention.

It is important for us to break down borders of context, playing in museums, new music festivals etc, but also within the various club-scenes,

underground cultures etc. from the Museum Ludwig in Köln to Hongkong's legendary "Chemical Suzie" den.

One initial reason for us to start working together was that it seemed no-one was releasing the kind of music we wanted to hear or the video we wanted to see, or combined them in innovative and appealing ways; so we set out to create it ourselves. Interestingly - 5 years down the road - this do-it-yourself principle has prevailed and is still a guiding light, bringing with it a multitude of offers for collaboration along the way.

The parameters of our live performances - (improvisational, sometimes irritating, sometimes melancholic, from pleasing to aggressive) are the same that our whole project is based upon, an ever evolving, organic form.

das 1997 auf der documenta in kassel gegründete audio / videoprojekt rechenzentrum arbeitet an der schnittstelle von kunst und pop.

2 alben auf dem deutschen vorzeigelabel kitty yo, zwei 12" für das elektroniklabel shitkatapult / kompakt und unzählige remixe und kooperationen mit künstlern aus den verschiedensten bereichen (improvisierte, neue musik, tanz etc.) rund um den globus sind beispiel für die vielseitigen interessen und anknüpfungspunkte des rechenzentrums.

mit hilfe von unzähligen überlagerungen von gefundenem ausgangsmaterial aus den letzten 2000 jahren kulturgeschichte, entwickeln sie assoziativketten, die durch ihre archaische bild / tonsprache neue aspekte des verhältnisses von bild und ton formulieren. die in den layern versteckten inhaltlichen aussagen und querbezüge lassen stets platz für mehrdimensionale interpretationsmöglichkeiten.

die musikalisch / filmtheoretische sozialisation der einzelnen rechenzentrum - mitglieder ermöglicht ihnen einen respektlos - humoristischen umgang mit dem material, der keine berührungsängste zu artfremden szenen kennt. im mai 2003 wird das neue album "director`s cut" (als dvd / audio cd) bei dem renommierten frankfurter label "mille plateaux" veröffentlicht.

www.rechenzentrum.org