

PRESS RELEASE

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NM010 - We're Running out of West - A Narrominded Compilation

We're Running out of West - A Narrominded Compilation is the tenth release by the Dutch label Narrominded. The album has only been released on vinyl and comes with a free cd-r with extra music on it. The vinyl contains a mixture of new electronic music from the Netherlands alongside tracks by international artists. The idea behind the compilation is the merging of different approaches and directions in electronic music, with an emphasis on Dutch electronica. The free bonuscd-r contains extra music by the Dutch artist from the Narrominded-roster.

Narrominded started in 2000 with the release of four cd-r's by Psychon Troopers. After that the label released the second album by Larz, followed by a limited version of Larz' debut on the US label Blackbean and Placenta and a 7" by the Dutch rockgroup SGP. After two more cd-r's by Psychon Troopers, the decision was made to give the label a more clear direction in its releases. Narrominded decided to move into the field of electronic music. The diversity of We're Running out of West shows that the decision and doesn't impose musical restraints.

Artist information

Living Ornaments is a collaboration of two members of Psychon Troopers. Opposed to the mostly instrumental approach of Psychon Troopers, Living Ornaments defines their music from sounds. We're Running out of West contains the first track by the American artists **Your Favorite Horse**, formerly known as Accelerera Deck. Their contribution consists of layers of fragmented sounds of electric guitar that were edited and manipulated electronically. **Orphax** is a Dutch artist making his debut on this album. The Geology-student from Amstelveen uses his study as a metaphor: sounds are diminished to their pure form and from these elements new cohesive sounds and eventually tracks are constructed. **Sencha**, also Dutch and also making his debut, makes the title of his contribution That Dream all of the Time come true. The repeating melody, the constantly altering grainy beats and dark undertones make you feel like you're in a hallucination, a dreamworld. **Garçon Taupe** from Amsterdam wakes us with a swinging beat that reminds of electro and old-school hiphop. Slaak is a catchy and melodious tune that puts to mind the more 'funny' side of Aphex Twin. In the first half of the 90's **Bedouin Ascent** produced two beautiful albums for the legendary UK ambienttechno label Rising High. The exclusive track Hoopskee stems from the same era and proves his music is both timeless and highly innovative.

Side two opens with **Larz**. After two full albums and countless tapes and compilation-tracks that are conveniently classifiable as lo-fi, Larz shows a new musical approach on We're Running out of West. Though the piano is still present, the vocal songs have made room for complex beat structures, dark layers of electronics en restless melodies. German ambient emperor **Pete Namlook**, probably the most productive electronic producer in the world, donated a track from his New Organic Life series. The track is based on so-called granular synthesis. Pixelconference consist entirely of molecular grains of sound that together form a deep and terrifying atmosphere. **Duplo Remote** is best known for a wonderful contribution to the famous series of split 12"s on the UK-based FatCat label. For this occasion he programmed an eclectic track of cut-up drum 'n' bass. Dutch newcomer **Hydrus** has a feel for swinging beats as well as for drama. This gives the chilly electronics a deeper layer and proves that laptop music can have a deeper meaning. De last track on the album comes from **Psychon Troopers**. The pulsating sound on Sacrificial Lamb is like a heartbeat. After the synthesizers have reached their climax, the blood flows from the veins and the beating stops. What remains are divine sounds. Psychon Troopers are used to improvisation. The six cd-r's previously released on Narrominded were fully improvised. They decided to break with that way of working and the new tracks featured on We're Running out of West are on the edge of their old work en their new fully-composed album, that is scheduled for release later this year.

Media

In certain media We're Running out of West got raving review even before it was officially released. The underground magazine Fake stated that "the local matadors measure up to the exclusive tracks of famous international artists like Pete Namlook and Bedouin Ascent." Fret magazine says the following: "Experiment is one of the key issues here, so from your speakers there is a constant stream of clicks, cuts, glitches en white noise. These sounds are among stripped-down sequencer loops, ambient chords, aggressive and subsonic basslines and machine-like rhythm patterns. Sharp and chilled sounds combine effortlessly with round and warm sounds." Vital Weekly, the newsletter from Staalplaat: "Alongside the big names there is fantastic music by others who are not famous yet. A great new electronica label from the Netherlands we hope brings us more goodies in the future." We're Running out of West was presented on the third)Toon) Festival in Haarlem, with a special Narrominded program featuring Living Ornaments, Garçon Taupe, Orphax and Hydrus. Other acts on the festival were Kid 606, Fennesz, Raster-Noton and Techno Animal. Promoting)Toon), Living Ornaments gave a performance on Vrije Geluiden, a program on the Dutch national tv broadcaster VPRO.

Distribution

In the Netherlands We're Running out of West is distributed by ClearSpot and Staalplaat. International distribution: B-Line (USA), Baked Goods (UK), Chunky (UK), Norman (UK), Electro-Violence (Japan), Staubgold (Germany), Drone (Germany), Fringes (Italy), Benno (Sweden).

We hope you and your medium can pay some attention to this extraordinary Dutch release.

With kind regards,

Lars Meijer and Coen Polack,
Narrominded