

PRESS RELEASE

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NM012 – Narrominded Split Lp Series #2 – Hydrus / Kettel

The second installment in a series of split lp's released by the Dutch label Narrominded. In this series Dutch artists share a slab of vinyl with colleagues from all over the world. Every installment in the 'Split LP Series' will be released in an exclusive edition of 300 copies. The first installment, released last year consists of music by the Dutch duo Living Ornaments and the American artist Accelera Deck. The second lp is a Dutch affair, but it has everything it needs and more to soon make name far abroad.

Each side of the record contains a complete work clocking in at about twenty minutes. Side A is 'Chime EP' by Hydrus. The four tracks they contributed stand out because of their meticulous production and their wonderful sense of melody and emotion. This is music in the best electronic tradition, blending hiphop, ambient, funk, drone and badass breaks. Hydrus begins this twenty-minute journey with a funky bump and end it in a mess of nervous percussion, splintered to dust. Side B is an altogether positive and quirky piece of work by Kettel. Like most of his work of the last few years, 'Yellow Baron' is exploding with beautiful melody. In six tracks Kettel puts everything to work to make your head bob, to bring a smile to your face and a tear to the corner of your eye. Classic stuff, without losing sense of experiment. The first spring record is here.

Hydrus

Hydrus started out as the solo project of Herman Wilken, but over a year ago Almer Lücke was invited to work on some tracks and he has been a full member of this project ever since. Herman and Almer met at the Sonology department of the Royal Conservatory in The Hague where they hope to graduate this year. Although they were both brought up on a diet of Plaid, Autechre and other great electronic music, their musical sense is deeply rooted in other areas of music as well. They played in rock bands, and are as familiar with aleatoric composition as they are with cutting edge beat programming. Their production skills can rank among the greatest in today's electronic music, providing their music with serenity, grace and irresistible power at the same time. On various occasions Hydrus have proved themselves to be a wonderful live-act, playing Narrominded showcases and highly acclaimed gigs on their own. 'Chime EP' is their debut.

Kettel

Reimer Eising from the Dutch city of Groningen is an artist of growing fame. In the past few years he enriched the great catalogues of labels such as Planet μ , Neo Ouija, Kractive and Dub. His music covers the vast terrain between electronica, hiphop and more classically conceived music. From the ravey hiphop blow out of his classic 'Tadley Management EP' and his latest and most genre-breaking ep 'Cuddle and then Leave' Reimer's musical development has taken a gigantic leap. Maybe that is why this 'Yellow Baron' sounds like a musical homage for the great electronic artists of our time and the records that most likely got him into this music anyway. According to Reimer music is about beauty, emotion and entertainment: "I know the whole world says it, but I say it three times louder. Every music without beauty is noise to me." He is an animal lover and cats, bunnies and cows sometimes grace the artwork of his record sleeves. At the moment Kettel is as productive as ever and he is working on a lot more albums and ep's to be released in the near future.

Narrominded

For some time the Dutch label Narrominded focuses on releasing electronic music. When the label was founded in 2000 its catalogue soon became very diverse, ranging from ambient to noiserock to lo-fi. Since the release of the compilation 'We're Running out of West', Narrominded is completely devoted to electronic music. The compilation, a showcase of Dutch artists was released to critical acclaim throughout the world. The first installment of the Split LP series with Living Ornaments (NL) and Accelera Deck (USA) sharing the vinyl, got raving reviews in print and in html. In the near future Narrominded will be releasing more installments in the 'Split LP Series' and a complete album by Psychon. A DVD-project is also in development.