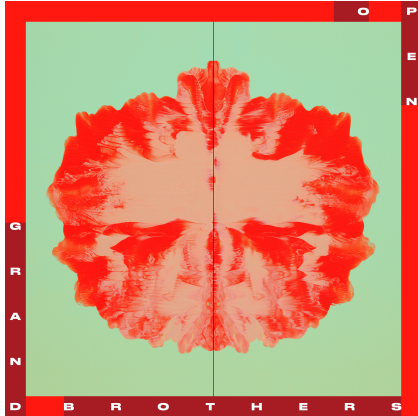




IRASCIBLE MUSIC



GRANDBROTHERS (DE)

Album: Open

Label: City Slang

Release Date: 20.10.2017

Web: grandbrothersmusic.com

EPK: irascible.ch/de/releases/grandbrothers/open

There's a celebrated John Cage quote that's always appealed to Erol Sarp, one half of Düsseldorf's Grandbrothers: "I can't understand why people are frightened of new ideas. I'm frightened of the old ones." It's a sentiment ideally suited to Sarp's work with his musical partner, Lukas Vogel. The duo has consistently tried to find fresh ways, aesthetically and practically, to compose.

Grandbrothers are the sum of unique parts: Progressive Swiss engineer/mechanic/software designer Vogel and German-Turkish pianist Sarp. Their second album 'Open' twins Sarp's piano skills with Vogel's talent for both building the formidably intricate mechanics with which he exploits his partner's instrument and also designing its software. Sarp works at his ivory keyboard while, from behind his own computer keys, Vogel live-samples his partner's notes, triggering further effects with the aid of homemade apparatus that physically manipulate the piano's strings and body. "There are hammers I control," he explains, "which hit different parts to make beats and percussive patterns. In the beginning, I just used an open circuit board I'd constructed without a proper case. It was very fragile and often didn't work. We always had a soldering-iron when we played live."

Their ambitious second album 'Open' explores dimensions at which their debut 'Dilation' only hinted. The greatest revelation for anyone hearing them the first time remains the element constant to everything they've recorded: every individual sound that Grandbrothers make stems from one single instrument, a piano. No wonder their music was once memorably described as "open heart surgery on a grand."

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Place du Nord 7, 1005 Lausanne
Geroldstrasse 33, 8005 Zürich
www.irascible.ch

D-CH Promotion: Niklaus Buehler
niklaus@irascible.ch; 044 271 32 84

F-CH Promotion: Gilles Kaeser
gilles@irascible.ch; 078 976 00 25