



ZABELOV GROUP

Eg

Tracklist:

1. Intro 2. Odvaha 3. Na krev 4. For A While 5. Opuštěný svět 6. Je vis
7. Lemniscate 8. Fairy Queen 9. There Is Always Somewhere Else To Go

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Eg is the fruit of two years of labour. Recording took place at several locations, with the renowned Svarov Studio serving as the centre of gravity. A number of audio sources recorded outside the studio also made it into the mix, including a church organ. Recording was overseen by audio engineers Lukas Martinek and Matous Godik, who did the final mastering. *"Several tendencies have been emerging in our work. The discovery of sound options provided by modulated accordion has led us to ambient music on the one hand and strict grooves on the other. We're interested in both abstract compositions and in combining music with narrative and out-of-studio recordings. We've been discovering the options we have as musicians but also enjoying what studio postproduction has to offer. I don't know whether we'll have the will to create such a synthesis in future recordings but hopefully we've managed to interconnect all these levels in 'Eg'",* Jan Sikl says about the origin of the album.

Zabelov Group was formed in 2012 when the musical dialogue between Roman Zabelov, accordionist, and Jan Sikl, a multiinstrumentalist, took concrete form. That same year, their debut, entitled *40,000 km*, was released. On it, the musical duo defined their work: a broad take on jazz, a fascination with rhythmic sequences, and abstract vocals. The subsequently released *Secret Session* represented an initial collaboration with Matous Godik and a refinement of their sound. A precursor to *Eg*, their third album in a row, was the single *Lek*. Zabelov Group's musical endeavour is permeated by the effort to maintain live contact with the instrument but provide the entire spectrum of club sound while performing as a duo. Their original acoustic puritanism thus gradually transformed into complex cinematic music accompanied by samples and acoustic instruments enhanced by electronics.

Jan Sikl explains the unusual title of the album as follows: *"Eg is an archetypal word, one you enunciate when there is no ability to name. Verbalized intuition and pure gesture. Our album is the result of too conscious a process to be able to meet this goal, but the urgency is nevertheless still present. Here, intuition is homoeopathically diluted into targeted, long, detailed work, and the gesture of enunciation is sequentially included between the individual tracks."*

In 2015, at the Uherske Hradiste Summer Film School, Zabelov Group had a go at providing a live soundtrack for Alfred Hitchcock's silent movie *The Ring*. In addition, since 2017, they have provided musical accompaniment for the *Fairy Queen* performance by 420People. In addition to festival stages at the United Islands Of Prague, Spectaculare, and Fusion, the band drew attention as a supporting act for Hidden Orchestra, Poppy Ackroyd, and Bill Laurance. This year, they also had great success at the showcase Czech Music Crossroads festival. All this musical experimentation and these live jam sessions put together have morphed into the organic sound of *Eg*. Several guests took part in the album, including vocalists Hannah Cecily, Cécile da Costa, and Madeleine Walker, as well as soprano Varine Mkrtchyan. Other featured artists include Jaromir Honzak (double bass), Daniel Radanovic (double bass), and Petr Kalfus (soprano saxophone and bass clarinet).

Publisher:

Press contact:

Website:

Phone #:

Minority Records

press@minorityrecords.com

www.minorityrecords.com

+420 722 544 845

Media partner:

