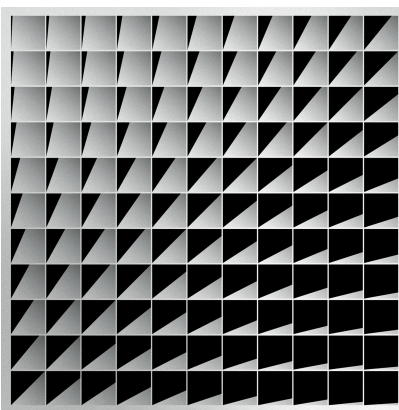


Lemur releases debut album on Aurora Records!



Oslo, 28.04.23

Aurora Records proudly presents *Critical Bands*, featuring some of Norway's leading performers on the contemporary music scene: Bjørnar Habbestad (flutes), Hild Sofie Tafjord (horn), Lene Grenager (cello), and Michael Francis Duch (double bass). The new album will be available as a CD and on digital platforms on May 5th 2023, and is the highly productive composition collective's first release on Aurora. The album will be celebrated with a concert in Oslo on the 6th of May.

Critical Bands is the culmination of Lemur's decade-long exploration of physical, abstract, and ephemeral sonic spaces. Recorded by more than fifty musicians in different sites and configurations across several countries, the album exposes deep layers of sonic exploration. Complex instrumental materials are captured and filtered through different architectural spaces, revealing a modular, site-specific composition practice.

'*Critical Bands* is designed as a process' LEMUR states. 'It takes form as negotiation between different sites, musicians, scores, and recordings that investigates how music can relate to the space in which it is performed'.

The album was recorded in Nidarosdomen (Trondheim), Korskirken (Bergen), Sofienberg kirke (Oslo), LiteraturHaus (Copenhagen), Notam (Oslo), Harpa (Reykjavik), and Athletic Sound (Halden) and subsequently combined, edited and re-composed by the ensemble. The work is realized with performances from outstanding musicians from Norway and abroad; Eivind Lønning (trumpet), Morten Barrikmo (clarinets), Tanja Orning (cello), Robin Hayward (tuba), Torben Snekkestad (sax), Lotte Anker, Caput Ensemble, Ole Henrik Moe (octobass, violin, viola), Kari Rønnekleiv and many more!

Bio:

LEMUR is a fourheaded sonic organism that transforms, blends and breaks the boundaries of the performing composer. Drawing on their combined vocabulary from experimental music, noise, contemporary music, and jazz, the four soloists appear both as a conceptually guided composition collective and a tightly knit improvising unit.

The ensemble was founded in 2006 and has performed across Europe and Asia with different formations and projects ranging from their regular quartet set, via collaborations with pianist John Tilbury, guitarist Stian Westerhus, and the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra. Their musical activities include a series of commissions drawing on the canon of 20th century modernism, in which the ensemble creates new collaborative work from titles and concepts excavated from earlier music. Other collaborators include Glasgow-based avant-disco hipsters AMOR, Zeitkratzer-leader and pianist Reinholdt Friedl, electro-acoustic pioneer Natasha Barrett, and performance artist Kate Pendry.

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