

S T A U G B O L D



Staubgold is a german label directed by markus Detmer who replied to our questions on september 12, 2002.

- **I'd like to know a little biographical information about you, such as how old you are, where you grew up, your schooling... Any sort of information that could help readers to understand how you got to be who you are today.**

Well, I grew up on the countryside of Germany, about 40 km from Cologne, where I was born in 1972 and went to school. I studied Musicology, German and English at Cologne university for quite some years (but never finished). At the beginning of the 90s I met the people that later became A-Musik (their shop started in 1995) and got very seriously involved with making and listening to music (my project Klangwart, with Timo Reuber, started the same year). The first Staubgold release came out in 1998.

- **Which friendly piece of advice would you give to someone who wants to start his label ? What used to be tape-only labels are now CDR-only labels. Do you think it makes it easier for people to start their label and run less risks ?**

Try to release music that not everybody else release. Work hard on the profile of your label. Communicate as much as possible. Be a hard judge when it comes to the quality of music and packaging. And take your time to get things growing.

CD-R is good for promotion. But if you want to run your label at least somehow economically and want to be taken seriously, you can't do without industrially manufactured cds. It's not that expensive today anyway.

- **To me the role of a label should be to discover new acts, help them get promotion, distribution, spread the word on their creativity. It seems that could be the motivation behind your label. Right ?**

Yeah, that's right. Especially important to me is to show through the label releases that today's musical world is so rich and so diverse, though to my mind all music on the label has in common a special dedication and passion which may guide as a red line through the Staubgold catalogue.

There are different generations of musicians on the label, from the people I started with, like Groenland Orchester from Hamburg (= Reznicek + Gunter Adler), Institut Fuer Feinmotorik or Reuber which are all pretty much my age, to Mapstation, Joseph Suchy and Harald "Sack" Ziegler, who are in their 40s, to Faust who released their first album for Polydor back in 1971! I'm very proud of this album by Faust ("Patchwork") which will be released on Staubgold in November this year (2002). "Patchwork" features unreleased stuff all over their musical career from 1971-2002. Have a look on the website for artist profiles and our catalogue (<http://www.staubgold.com>).





- **I have noticed in your list of distributors that in some countries you use some mailorder-lists rather than proper distributors, or better say mailorder-lists that have extended their activities and sell to some very specialised Indie record stores. But they do not sell to chain stores.**
- **In other parts of the world your releases are sold in chains, is it good for your records to reach those music supermarkets**

What is best : keep things, prices under control and thus avoid mass-distribution in certain countries ? Or that records be available everywhere ?

Today, there are more and more chain stores and less and less passionate/smaller record shops. How are you affected by that (de)evolution ? You know, I'm convinced of the musical quality of our stuff, so basically I want to make it available "everywhere" as you put it. The musicians put so much effort into their music, so why not try hard to sell as much as possible of it? In the long run I find it unavoidable to use both indie and mass distribution to increase sales.

On the other hand I put out a lot of vinyl which doesn't suit to mass distribution anyway, and the huge amount of vinyl still released everywhere is what often keeps small indie stores alive, it's not necessarily the cds.

- **Most labels have an example, or a favorite other label which they like, and you ? Any label you could say was an influence on you ?**

It's more the people behind the label, not necessarily the label itself, that somehow influenced me. For example I respect people like Daniel Miller (Mute), Wolfgang Voigt (Kompakt) and Georg Odijk (a-Musik) a lot for their strong visions and their power to get things going.

- **You pay a lot of attention to packaging and your website is good-looking. Could you give us details on the person in charge of the design ? What is according to you the most beautiful record/art-object you ever issued ?**

The cd and lp sleeves have been designed by many different people. But we are constantly working with a graphic designer, Kerstin (kerstin@nothmannstyle.de), who designed the website and logo and started to take care now of all "corporate identity" aspects.

Personally my favourite sleeves are "Penetrans" (Institut Fuer Feinmotorik) and "Naima" (Vladislav Delay).

- Often people do not consider "microsounds" to be rich and believe that very few is happening... Often associating it with the theory of "less is more", whereas a lot of things and ideas can be noticed in the music of many so-called "microsound" artists.
- Would you say that this is because many listeners :
A/do not listen
B/do not care
C/can't understand the subtleties

I think many people are not used to listen carefully to music, so - yes – I suppose, they can't understand the subtleties. But some would still not care anyway...

- Could you give us some precisions on the actual scene in Germany ?
Any other label, activists that you feel close to ?

I feel very close to the Cologne scene, especially the A-Musik crowd. There's still a huge amount of labels over here which has the positive effect of excellent structures for distribution, promotion etc.



Forthcoming in autumn 2002 are:

staubgold 33 Thilges 3 – Die offene Gesellschaft CD/LP
staubgold 34 Scott Horsecroft – Eight Guitars CD
staubgold 35 Various Artists – Music Out Of Place CD/LP
staubgold 36 F.S. Blumm – Ankern CD/LP
staubgold 37 Faust – Patchwork CD/LP

in 2003: Sun 2CDs/2LPs, Ekkehard Ehlers CD/LP, Mapstation MCD/MLP, Oren Ambarchi & Martin Ng CD...

DISCOGRAPHY :

staubgold 1	Erixma - "sphere of magnetick virtue"	LP
staubgold 2	Tesendalo - "Laura"	LP
staubgold 3	Frrranck C. - "Heaven's Gate"	7"EP
staubgold 4	Reznicek - "Audi & Goggo/Armgartburg"	Picture-10"
staubgold 5	Institut Für Feinmotorik - "wenig information: kein titel"	Mini-LP

staubgold 6 Sack & Blumm - "Sylvester Orchester 2000/Maus-Garage" 7"
staubgold 7 Groenland Orchester - s/t 12" EP
staubgold 8 Reuber - "Anna" LP
staubgold 9 Gunter Adler - "15 Electronic Pieces" CD
staubgold 10 Groenland Orchester - "Trigger Happiness" CD
staubgold 11 Mapstation - "Sleep, engine sleep" MCD/MLP
staubgold 12 Gunter Adler - "Kiebitzreihe" 7"
staubgold 13 Groenland Orchester - "Nurobic" CD/LP
staubgold 14 Sack und Blumm - "2 x 5"
staubgold 15 Oren Ambarchi & Martin Ng - "Reconnaissance" CD
staubgold 16 "Lume Lume" CD : Alexander Balanescu, To Rococo Rot, Rupert
Huber, Isabella Bordon, Sergio Messina, Siegfried Ganhör
staubgold 17 Rafael Toral - "Violence of discovery and calm of acceptance" LP
staubgold 18 Reuber - "ruhig blut" CD/LP
staubgold 19 Ekkehard Ehlers - "Plays Albert Ayler" MLP
staubgold 20 Various Artists - "Staubgold" CD
staubgold 21 Ekkehard Ehlers - "Plays John Cassavetes" MLP
staubgold 22 To Rococo Rot - "Kölner Brett" CD/LP
staubgold 23 Vladislav Delay - "Naima" CD
staubgold 24 Mapstation - "New Direction" 12"
staubgold 25 Institut Fuer Feinmotorik - "Penetrans" CD/LP
staubgold 26 Ekkehard Ehlers - "Plays Hubert Fichte" MLP
staubgold 27 Oren Ambarchi - "Suspension" 2LPs
staubgold 28 Harald "Sack" Ziegler - "Kopf Zahl Bauch" cd/lp
staubgold 29 Mapstation - "A way to find the day" cd/lp
staubgold 30 Ekkehard Ehlers - "Plays" cd
staubgold 31 Klangkrieg/Gunter Adler - "s/t" lp
staubgold 32 Oren Ambarchi & Keith Rowe - "Flypaper" cd