



LPGRON170
Klaus Dinger & Pre-Japandorf
2000!
22 April 2017

The turn of the millennium had been received with huge expectations. A better future would soon arrive and the world would evolve into a globally minded place. Klaus Dinger & Pre-Japandorf's album 2000! takes us right back to that time.

The upcoming millennium inspired Klaus Dinger, legendary co-founder of NEU! and La Düsseldorf, to look for new collaborative opportunities with other musicians. His ambition was to create new music, to "re-sound" the impending millennium and to find new forms of artistic production. He therefore opened his studio to various fine artists and musicians for spontaneous recording sessions. After Dinger had been introduced to Kazuyuki Onouchi in 1999 by a mutual friend, Masaki Nakao, the pair began working together on *VIVA Remix*, a remix of the La Düsseldorf album *VIVA*. These sessions were the breeding ground for the album 2000!.

Andreas Reihse (Kreidler) on keyboard and Viktoria Wehrmeister (Toesch) on vocals also played key roles in these sessions. They knew Klaus Dinger from his previous project called La!NEU? (1995-1998). Nakao Masaki and Thea Djordjadze joined in as additional vocalists. With Klaus Dinger leading the sessions on guitar and Kazuyuki Onouchi as the drummer and engineer, they had found the perfect mix for this experimental setup. At that point the name "Japandorf" was already being bandied about.

Going through Klaus Dinger's creative history, 2000! is the perfect blueprint for the subsequently recorded album *Japandorf*, Klaus Dinger's last production before he passed away suddenly in March 2008. *Japandorf* was released by Grönland Records in 2013.

As a New Year's resolution, Klaus sent a fax message to his friends saying "SMASHING CHA CHA 2000!", and that is where the album name derives from. It has long been Klaus's manifesto and "CHA CHA 2000" is a song from La Düsseldorf's second album *VIVA*.

All of the tracks were recorded in Klaus's Zeeland studio in one take. Except "June 2. 2000! Lilienthal Studio", which was recorded in Klaus's studio in Düsseldorf.

A very special atmosphere reigned while 2000! was being recorded. Everyone camped outside in the lovely garden at the Zeeland studio, sitting around the campfire, silently waiting for the right moment to record. Once they felt the right moment had arrived, the musicians gathered inside, where Klaus started playing the guitar. This invitation was quickly followed by the other artists and everyone played with no prior rehearsal. Dinger was especially good at making everyone feel comfortable enough to embrace the challenge of the usually very intense improvised sessions.

It was crucial for everyone to capture the purity and magic of the first take.

"Turning documentary into art" would indeed be the best way to describe this album.

Quotes on the songs:

The recording session was exactly like Maki says in her fragile voice: "I feel like being in a dream or in a fantasy..."

Viktoria Wehrmeister remembers that the lyrics, "Pure energy, without a memory..." and "Talk to me!" came to her as an immediate reaction to her experience during the days of recording session.

The original version of "Mayday", sung by Klaus Dinger, appeared on the album *Düsseldorf* by La!NEU?. On 2000! the song is interpreted by Viktoria Wehrmeister and Thea Djordjadze.

Klaus Dinger always used to celebrate summer solstice and that inspired the song "Midsummer". Viktoria Wehrmeister sings "*toi, tu fais la dans*", while Thea Djordjadze sings "play with me" in her native Georgian.

"Untitled, September 12. 2000!" and "THANK YOU ALL!" were songs Klaus Dinger returned to for years.

Kazuyuki Onouchi and Klaus recorded many versions of these two songs up to just few days before Klaus Dinger passed away. The drums and guitar were recorded in one take and then the bass was overdubbed later on.

“THANK YOU ALL!”: Klaus Dinger sings and shouts “Thank you for loving us, thank you for hating us. You can beat us, cheat us and treat us so bad, but we don’t care, we are the sensation of the model nation!” This is his statement for the new millennium.

Artist: Klaus Dinger + Pre-Japandorf

Album title : 2000!

Release date : 24 April 2017

A

1. June 2. 2000! Lilienthal Studio (2:22)

Music: Onouchi, Nakao

Maki Umehara(vox), Klaus Dinger (vox), Kazuyuki Onouchi (piano), Masaki Nakao (Harmonica)

2. Pure Energy (5:14)

Text: Wehrmeister; music: Dinger, Wehrmeister, Reihse, Onouchi

Klaus Dinger (guitar), Viktoria Wehrmeister (vox), Andreas Reihse (keybord), Kazuyuki Onouchi (drums),

Masaki Nakao (vox)

3. Talk (5:15)

Text: Wehrmeister; music: Dinger, Wehrmeister, Reihse, Onouchi

Klaus Dinger (guitar), Viktoria Wehrmeister (vox), Andreas Reihse (keybord), Kazuyuki Onouchi (drums),

Masaki Nakao (vox)

4. Mayday 2000! (7:35)

Music and text: Dinger

Klaus Dinger (guitar), Viktoria Wehrmeister (vox), Thea Djordjadze (vox), Masaki Nakao (vox)

B

5. Untitled, September 12. 2000! (8:12)

Music: Dinger, Onouchi

Klaus Dinger (guitar), Kazuyuki Onouchi (drums/bass)

6. Midsummer (7:00)

Text: Wehrmeister, Djordiadze; music: Dinger, Onouchi, Reihse, Wehrmeister

Klaus Dinger (guitar), Kazuyuki Onouchi (drums), Andreas Reihse (keybord),

Viktoria Wehrmeister (vox), Thea Djordjadze (vox)

7. THANK YOU ALL! (2:40)

Text: Dinger; music: Dinger, Onouchi

Klaus Dinger (vox/guitar/bass), Kazuyuki Onouchi (drums)

Recorded at Klaus Dinger’s Zeeland Studio Kamperland
and at Lilienthal Studio Düsseldorf by Kazuyuki Onouchi, 2000

Mixed by Klaus Dinger and Kazuyuki Onouchi, 2000 - 2007

Mastering by Kai Blankenberg Skyline Tonfabrik, 2016

Produced by Klaus Dinger, co-produced by Kazuyuki Onouchi and Miki Yui

Front cover drawing by Viktoria Wehrmeister, 2000

All Polaroids by Klaus Dinger, 2000, except self-portrait and Andreas Reihse by Thea Djordiadze,

Klaus Dinger with camera by Shinichi Mizoguchi, 2000

Cover design by Christa Marek and Miki Yui, 2016

Grönland Records, 2017