

# SYRINX CALL

# Mirrorneuron

Label: Flat Earth Music Release date: Jan 29<sup>th</sup> 2021

**AUDIO-CD** 

Genre: Melodic Rock, Artrock, Folk, Weltmusik; Ambient, Klassik-Pop

For Fans of: Genesis, Pink Floyd, Eloy, Mike Oldfield

Release Date: January 29th 2021

A concept album with recorder as the main instrument? Here comes "Mirrorneuron". An album which is dominated even more by progressive rock elements than its predecessor "The Moon on a Stick". Since the more folk-like/symphonic debut album "Wind in the Woods", the project "Syrinx Call" around recorder player Volker Kuinke has impressively matured into its very unique style, as well as gained in complexity. "Mirrorneuron" is part one of a work dominated by astonishing conciseness and virtuosity, catchy dynamics and touching melodies.

Again, you have recorders merging with classical and electric guitars, keyboards, drums, but also string instruments and the engaging vocals of Isgaard and Volker Kuinke's wife Doris Packbiers. Multi-instrumentalist and producer Jens Lueck has created masterful arrangements and is involving himself more than before as lead vocalist, but not without keeping the focus on the recorder in all its many variations as the main instrument.

To enhance the progressive rock element, Kuinke and Lueck have thought of something very special: Since Kuinke has contributed several times to projects of art rock band Eloy, he managed to get founder Frank Bornemann as well as members Hannes Arkona and Klaus-Peter Matziol on board as guest musicians. Volker Kuinke: "Jens Lueck and I have thought specifically about Eloy when we wrote the title track. And so we have created a song which would fit very well on any of the Eloy albums, too." Frank Bornemann himself played the guitar solo. Hannes Arkona was so enthused about the project that he added his guitar playing to many/most of the tracks on the album and even contributed his own piece "Silent Echoes".

"Mirrorneuron" tells the story of an Artificial Intelligence named Kai, who received the task to drill for oil in the arctic. Whilst calculating the rate of sustainability though, Kai encounters contradictions and a dissonance between theory and practice, which triggers a severe existential crisis within him. Psychotherapist Mara has to put the humanoid robot back on track again, but contrary to all expectations, Kai manages to stir something in her. For the first time ever, she experiences empathy, something she realized she never knew before in her otherwise perfectly organized life. Kai also develops a function which enables him to feel empathy towards Mara. This ability stems from mirror neurons. They are nerve cells in our brains which turn us humans into empathic beings, by means of putting ourselves into the place of others.

Main theme of this story is a specific chord combination, which begins with "Bit by Bit" and which continues to run through almost all of the tracks, intended to lead into the next album. It is a musical journey which in part is filled with spherical and orchestral sounds, in other parts with choral accompaniment or driving-dynamic rhythms, but is also playful or melancholic - some fragile vocals here, a picked classical guitar there, then again a heavy rock riff. They are all catchy melodies between folk, melodic rock, progressive and world music. This is what makes this album extremely dynamic.

Thanks also to some already known- and some new musical companions such as Ex-Sylvan guitarist Jan Petersen, who has been on all previous albums; Katja Flintsch (violin and viola) and Annika Stolze (violoncello) who simulated an entire symphony orchestra in the studio.

Jürgen Osuchowski again played classical guitar, western guitar and 12-string guitars, sometimes layered and polyphonically. This creates a soundscape comparable to early Genesis. Georg Kresimon, Head of the Moers Music Academy, is picking the bass in "Merging Influences", whereas Greek multi-instrumentalist Babis Nikou found the band via the Eloy Facebook page.

### Title list Mirrorneuron

| 1  | BIT BY BIT (OUVERTURE)     | 5:29 |
|----|----------------------------|------|
|    | ,                          | 00   |
| 2  | DECEPTIVE ILLUSION         | 4:59 |
| 3  | THE ARCTIC WILL DIE        | 4:19 |
| 4  | BREAKDOWN                  | 6:12 |
| 5  | PEFECT SHINE               | 3:13 |
| 6  | MERGING INFLUENCES         | 4:18 |
| 7  | BIG DATA                   | 2:19 |
| 8  | WEIRD RESONANCE            | 5:46 |
| 9  | ONE STEP BEYOND            | 1:29 |
| 10 | MIRRORNEURON               | 4:07 |
| 11 | I'M GONNA BUY SOME FLOWERS | 7:25 |
| 12 | SWEETNESS                  | 4:41 |
| 13 | FILL THE SILENCE           | 6:42 |
| 14 | SILENT ECHOES              | 1:16 |
|    |                            |      |

#### Line up – Syrinx Call are:

Volker Kuinke: Sopranino-, Soprano-, Alto-, Tenor-, Bass- and Great bass recorder, Vocals Jens Lueck (Producer): Keyboards, Piano, Percussion, Drums, Programming, Vocals

Isgaard: Vocals

Doris Packbiers: Vocals









#### Other musicians:

Klaus-Peter Matziol: Bass-Guitar Frank Bornemann: E-Guitar

Jürgen Osuchowski: 6- and 12-string acoustic guitars

Katja Flintsch: Violine and Viola Annika Stolze: Violoncello Jan Petersen: E-Guitar

Hannes Arkona: Acoustic- and E-Guitar, Keyboards

Georg Gresimon: Bass-Guitar

Babis Nikou: E-Guitar, Long-necked Lute

Monika Lewis, Shaun Geraghty, Kai Ritter, John Turner: Voices

Place and time of production: Art of Music-Studio, Garlstorf, September 2019 to Oktober 2020

Cover design and Aftwork: Michael Narten

Distribution: Timezone

Contact: www.syrinxcall.com

# Press reactions to "The Moon on a Stick":

"...a catchy album between Melodic Rock, Pop, and Folk"

#### **Audio**

"...and so his arsenal of Soprano-, Alt-, Tenor-, Bass und Great bass recorders never appear strange or take some getting used to, but rather give a unique touch to these varied songs."

## **Classic Rock**

"Kuinke plays a mesmerizingly clean recorder."

# **Eclipsed**

"This music is unique; it cleverly and artistically connects elements of folk, rock, world music and soaring instrumental music."

## **Empire**

"Kuinke is stirring the world of Progressive Rock with a recorder."

# **Good Times**

"Breathing, feeling und making music combined into a great storm with Syrinx Call."

# Spiegel online (dpa)

"Nowhere else can you hear a recorder equally light, spherical, clear, virtuoso and embedded in such many different styles of music."

#### Frankfurter Neue Presse