

Bernd-Michael Land

Live Performance

SLOWING WORLD

The musical opus

Slowing World

Faster, higher, further?

We live in a fast and frantic world- hardly anybody has time for anything. People are driven by hectic and haste, in their professional, as well as in their private spheres. Much of the stress and rush is actually self-made, as many people consider it necessary to be in reach anywhere, at any time. Always in a jiffy, no time left.

Meanwhile we're surrounded by Smombies, who like remotely controlled robots constantly stare at their smartphones, totally disregarding their environment. Communication only works via SMS or social media. Today's status symbols are follower and likes.



There is war everywhere.

We jostle, shove, wind, push, rant, rave and try to text or phone with our boss or beloved one, all at the same time. It's all permitted, no one has any time left.

Instead of buying new clothes in a local store, we order them online and have them shipped via express mail, of course. As no one has any time left.

And in case we don't like what we get, we wrap it all up, losing time again, rush to the next post office and just send it back ...

As we don't have any time left.

Evenings, ordering a Schnitzel or a Pizza through fast delivery services is routine.

Who even cares about factory farming, agglutinated ham and analog cheese?! Hunger needs to be satisfy, most importantly quickly as the TV is already waiting.

Well, as mentioned before, there is no time left.



The Project

The Hunted Human Being

How can the accomplishment of ever increasing demands in profession and career be our priority in life?

The modern human being is constantly on the run, degrading himself, becoming a living work machine, in order to function most effectively.

Working environments develop a strangely unique dynamic, faster, always faster, more performance, haste, followed by total exhaustion.

Completed by daily tasks of one's private life, there is barely any time left for the things that really matter.

Seen from an outsider's perspective, such a daily routine must seem absurd.

Wouldn't it be nice to pause and stop the march of time for a while? To let go and zone out of the daily rush?

To respire, to become consistent with one's inner harmony, to relax amidst this world of haste and noise?

Couldn't we counteract the daily rush by deceleration, by slowing down and refocus on the essential?

Why not plan our next holiday trip to a place, where there is no Internet or signal at all?

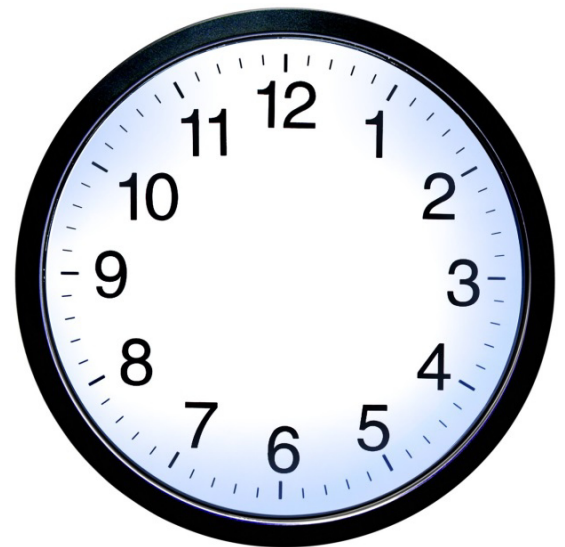
Let's go for a walk more often, let's rediscover slowness, relax and calm down.

Let us focus on the beautiful aspects of life and nature, that need to be protected.

Turn towards the here and now.

Are we even willing to let the pace of the world slow down for us?

We should close our eyes, listen to the elementary sounds and plunge deep into a bath of sound, enclosed by gentle lights.



The Music

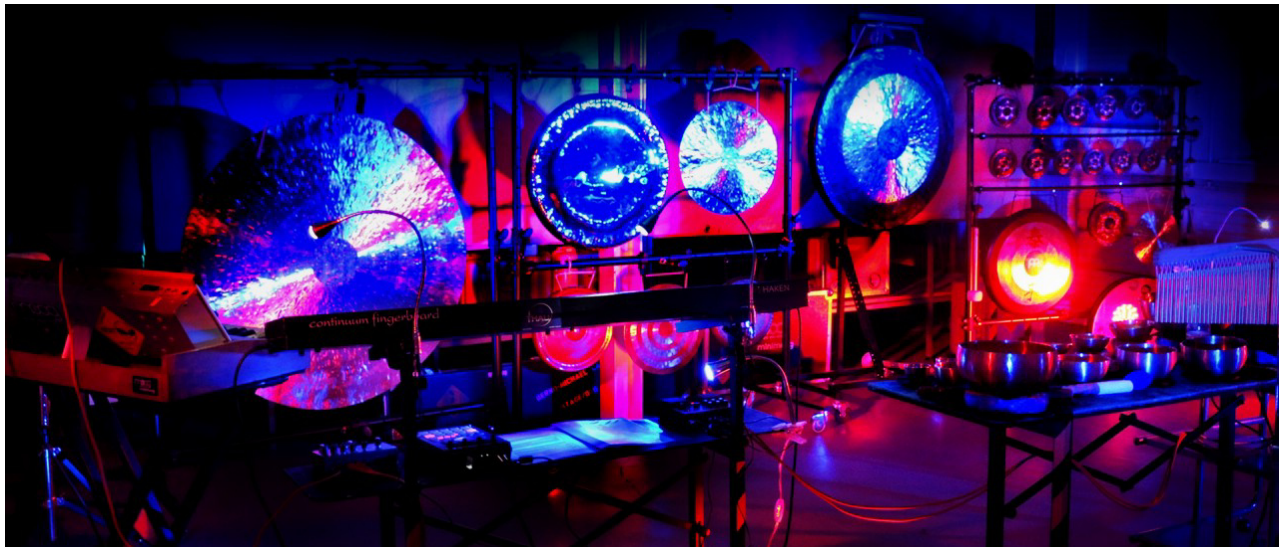
People need categories.

The project "Slowing World" could largely be classified as "ambient music"

or "chillout music", but actually emphasizes on way more meditative key characteristics.

From a technical point of view, the project differs from recent works as different conceptual approach was taken.

In addition to his already-known electronic instruments, such as synthesizers, samplers and sequencers, Land uses several acoustic sound instruments.



The base is framed by layered multidimensional and spherical sound elements, generated electronically and partially by means of modular synthesizers.

Artificial head microphones were used to capture natural sounds outside, in the rural area around Rodgau.

Those field recordings are engaged in a dynamic dialogue with the sounds generated by electronic synthesizers and acoustic metal instruments.

These three sound columns are developed in a transdisciplinary context and merge to an intermedial relation.

The main intention was to focus as much on the compositional aspects of this "meditative music" as on the audiophile aspects, the sound itself, without aiming in an esoteric direction in any way.

The Music

The Sound of the Earth – the Earth is Sound.

Metal.

Due to his first learnt profession as an art locksmith and building fitter, Land developed a very personal relationship with metal at a young age.

"I like the emitted coolness, it's texture and smell. Metal is heavy, strong, solid and stable – but fragile at the same time.

Metal is somewhat as I see myself.

It accompanied me as an important raw material during many years, and hence followed the obvious conclusion that I was to complement my arsenal of electronic sound generators with acoustic metal instruments", he says about himself.

For this purpose, Asian gongs and singing bowls were most convenient. Up to twelve different metals need to be extracted from earth, melted and refined to fabricate them.

In laborious handwork, the exquisite singing bowls and gongs are forged from precious raw materials like bronze, brass and silver.

But; is it really worth it, to perform with more than thirty gongs on stage?

Without doubt, it is possible to record a single gong via microphone and reproduce it's sound electronically. Yet, there is a remarkable difference between a sound, that is simply reproduced and played from speaker, and the room-filling acoustic oscillations emanating from a huge gong, with a diameter greater than one meter.



The human body absorbs these waves and one can literally feel the vibrations. The gongs' broad sound surfaces and the singing bowls' warm shades relate in a very particular way.

We perceive these overtone-rich sounds as natural and pleasant.

The Source

Electronic sound generators and acoustic sound sources.

The Haken Continuum is a very unique and rare electronic instrument. The fingerboard offers realtime continuous control in three dimensions. The pressure-sensitive neoprene keyboard enables a hugely expressive and so to say three-dimensional performance.

**Continuum Fingerboard
Digital Synthesizer by Haken Audio
(Fullsize)**



Several analog and digital synthesizers, droneboxes, samplers and a few effect devices complete the electronical part of the stage setup.

**A typical electronic Stage setup
with synthesizers, samplers,
effect devices and mixer.**



Thus, the music mainly originates live from the instruments on stage, many parameters can be altered in realtime during the concert.

By principle, no notebooks are used during live concerts, all sound generators are provided with direct manual access. In this way, the listener is invited to follow what's happening.

The Source

Round about 20 different singing bowls that originate from Asia, mostly from Tibet and Nepal, come into action. Following centuries-old traditions in craftsmanship, they were manufactured as unique ones, each with a particular overtone spectrum and a characteristic tone. Even bowls with identical size sound totally different.

Over several months, the singing bowls were composed in a process of careful selection and correlation to create an harmonious set.



The singing bowls' fragile and softer tones harmonize with the gongs' elementary sounds.

The tuned bossed gongs complete the Wind-, Tam-Tam- and Sung-Gongs perfectly.

Mostly Asian gongs are contained in this assortment, but also symphonic European gongs, namely manufactured by Paiste (Switzerland) and Meinl (Germany).

A big Tam-Tam Gong (37" / 95cm)

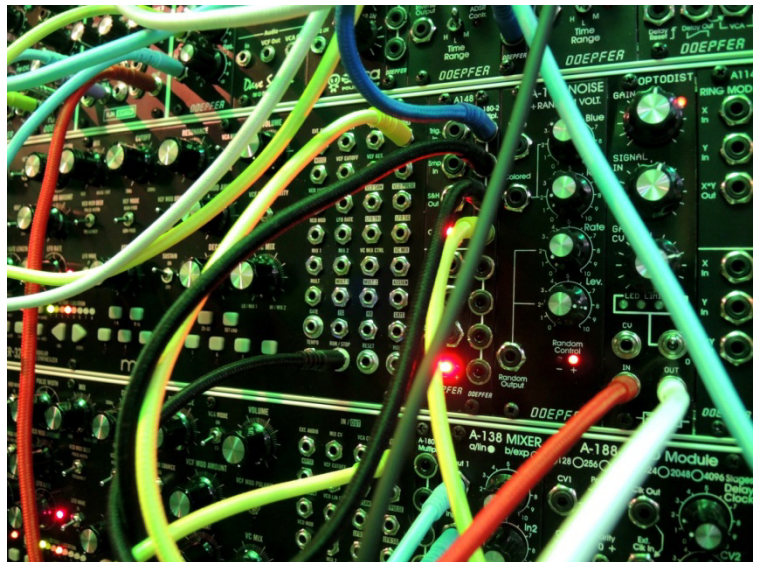


In total, almost 30 different gongs, varying in diameter and size, from 4" up to 44" (110cm), are ready to be played.

The Toolbox

The live instruments :

Haken Continuum (Fingerboard full)
Korg Micro-X (VA-Synthesizer)
Roland SP-404SX (Phrase-Sampler)
Moodysounds Babybox (Drone-Synth)
Knas Moisturizer (Spring reverb & Filter)
KCP Sleepdrone 5 (Drone-Syntheie)
Moog Murf MF105 (Multiple Filter Array)
MoogMF-104Z (Analog Delay)
Boss Space-Echo SE-20 (Delay)
Strymon Big Sky (Delay)
Dreadbox Erebus (Analog Synthesizer)
Arturia Minibrute SE (Analog Synth)
Analog Modularitysystem (modules
from different manufacturers, Moog, Roland,
AJH, Doepfer and many more)



Feng-Gong (China / 44")
Tam-Tam Gong (China / 38")
Sound Creation Gong 3A (Paiste / 32")
Brillant Symphonic Gong (Paiste / 26")
Tai Loi Gong (Meinl / 23")
Feng-Gong (China / 20")
Sun Gong (Nepal / 16")
Nipple Gong (Tibet / 15")
Tai Loi Gong (Meinl / 13")
Feng-Gong (Nepal / 12")
Tuned Nipple Gongs (Thailand, Burma)



Singin Bowl (Peter Hess, Meinl and more)
Singin Bowl (many others)



**2017 –at a meditation concert
in the chillout factory**

Curriculum Vitae

- 1954 - born on the 11th June in Frankfurt / Main
- 1969 - first musical steps with tape recorder and organ
- 1970 - first concerts with various local bands (Rock, Krautrock)
- 1971 - concerts with organ, synthesizer and theremin (Aliens-Project)
- 1974 - publication of the album "Intake" (MC)
- 1975 - member in the Frankfurt street theater "Baufirma Meissel & Co"
- 1976 - keyboardist in diverse bands, for example "Kotzbrocken"
- 1977 - first SynxsS-Studio in Dreieich-Götzenhain (experimental electronics)
- 1978 - publication of the album "Flash" (MC)
- 1982 - production of first sound libraries for movie and theater
- 1983 - project "Biosequencer"
- 1983 - publication of the album "Sequential Bitch" (MC)
- 1991 - move of the studio to Dreieich (advertisement and film music)
- 1997 - move of the studio to Offenbach-Wildhof
- 1998 - founding of the musician community "Elektro-Kartell"
- 1999 - publication of the album "Bikers-Paradise" (CD)
- 2000 - project "Mainhattan Hardtrance Project"
- 2000 - publication of the library "Australian Collection"
- 2001 - live project "Aliens-Project vs. Programmierte Welten" with Coco Adam
- 2001 - Frankfurt meets Köln @ BCN Aliens-Project & Dr. Walker live
- 2001 - publication of the album "Drop Out" (CD)
- 2001 - publication of the library "Bad Samples"
- 2002 - project Cool-TV / (documentation)

**2001 –Live @ Elektro Waves Festival
(Aliens-Project) in Dreieich**



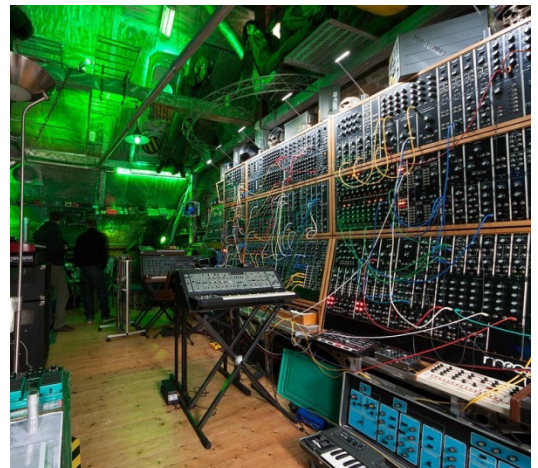
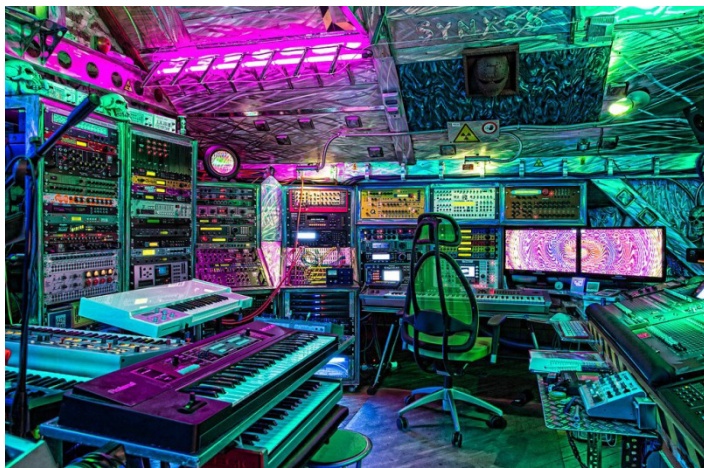
Curriculum Vitae

- 2002 - publication of the album "TheReMinator" (CD)
- 2002 - project "Bembeltechno"
- 2002 - project "Toy of the Month" (Sound libraries)
- 2003 - project "Echofields" for Newcomer-TV (Hessen Fernsehen HR3)
- 2003 - project "Summer-Special" (Hessen television HR3)
- 2004 - publication of the library "Bionics"
- 2004 - guest musician for the album "Zeitgeist" of The Dop Experience
- 2006 - fixed member at the EK-Lounge (Ambient Live-Session Project)
- 2006 - publication of the album "Kamerun" (CD)
- 2006 - initiator of the Modularsynthesizer-Meetings "Happy Knobbing"
- 2008 - publication of the album "Behind the blue Room" (CD)
- 2009 - project "Das Lächeln der Bäume" (when trees smile) in real quadrophony
- 2010 - project service travel (documentation) Hessen television HR3

**2011 –Live @ Hafen2 in
Offenbach / Main**



- 2011 - publication of the album "Zero Gravity" (CD)
- 2011 - live project "Skalien" with Siegfried Kärcher
- 2012 - production of new sound-libraries for Korg / KaPro (Namm Show 2013)
- 2013 - move to Rodgau-Hainhausen
- 2014 - new project "Thau" with Frank Tischer



Bernd-Michael Land

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Curriculum Vitae

- 2014 - new solo live project "Das elektronische OHRakel"
- 2014 - publication of the album "Live im Radom" with Frank Tischer
- 2015 - publication of the album "Elektra" / Thau with Frank Tischer
- 2015 - publication of the album "Intervall" (when trees smile)
- 2015 - publication of the album "Odyssee" (when trees smile)
- 2015 - publication of the album "Metamorphose" (when trees smile)
- 2015 - publication of the album "Quintessenz" (when trees smile)
- 2014 - new solo live project "Meeresgrund" (quadrophonic)
- 2015 - Deutscher Schallwelle Music Award "Best Artist 2014" (1st Place)



- 2016 - new project "Transmitter 594 KHz"
- 2016 - Deutscher Schallwelle Music Award "Best Artist 2015" (3rd Place)
- 2016 - Deutscher Schallwelle Music Award "Best Album 2015" (3rd Place)



- 2016 - publication of the album "Meeresgrund"
- 2016 - new project "Klangreise zum Himalaya" with HaDi Schmidt
- 2016 - Project "Bohemian Polyphony" / Castle Kalich, Trebusin (Czech Republic)
- 2017 - publication of the album "Transmitter 594 kHz"
- 2017 - new solo live project "Slowing World"
- 2017 - new solo live project "Hyperreale Reflexion"

Biography

Bernd-Michael "Bernie" Land, born on November 11, 1954, in Frankfurt am Main, is a musician (synthesizer, keyboard, electronics), sounddesigner and composer.

Since the early 70ies, he has mainly produced his own compositions and works, which do not necessarily fit into a certain category.

His musical style could be best described as experimental electronic and electronic instrumental music, including electronica, electro, bioacoustics, field recordings, soundscapes and sound art elements, but also influenced by techno, techhouse and krautrock.

Likewise other "electronic passionates" from that era, Land started of quite profane, spending his first self-earned money on equipment.

In the SynxsS-
Studio in
Offenbach/Main
2010



In 1969, he began with a simple transistor organ and tape machine, followed by a self-constructed big briar etherwave theremin and a first synthesizer.

Effect devices were rather rare and expensive at that time, so that special effects such as echos and loops were created by the help of rebuilt tape decks.

Being the keyboarder of several underground and rock bands, his equipment constantly changed over the years.

Biography

One of these bands was the legendary Band from Neu-Isenburg "Kotzbrocken" consisting also of Henni Nachtsheim (Badesalz), Peter "Crepper" Gerhardt, Bernd "Petzi" Petzold, Thorsten Finke, Peter Krapp. But also new bands, such as "Mohrnkopp" and "Space Fart" were founded by these members.

For quite a while, his basic equipment consisted of a Hammond B3 with Leslie, a Hohner Stringorchestra, the classic Fender-Rhodes Seventythree (Mark III), completed by synthesizers like the legendary Minimoog and an ARP Odyssey.

His musical roots were lying in Krautrock, Rock and electronic experimental music. Having bought a big Roland System 700 modular synthesizer, Land was given all possibilities to experiment freely.

Always in search of new sounds, he learned to precisely handle modular synthesizers and discovered new possibilities in the field of sounddesign and controlling technique of modular synths.



Until 2013, the "Walhalla" modular system was in operation in his "SynxsS-Studio", being one of the world's largest analog modular synthesizers with an impressive width of 5,5m and height of 2,2m

After 1991, the studio was gradually extended by digital synthesizers and samplers (Kurzweil 250 System, NED-Synclavier, CMI Fairlight III) and highquality outboard-equipment was added.

But the focus always lay on analog and modular synthesizers.

Bernd-Michael Land

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Biography

In subsequent years, from 2000 to 2006, a collaboration with Markus "Coco" Adam und the "Aliens-Project vs. Programmierte Welten" label was established and live concerts in several german clubs were played.

Over the course of the cooperation, two LPs resulted from live recordings: "TheReMinator" and "Kamerun".

Apart from his solo performances, collaborations with other musicians always played an important role aswell. Danceable club music was published under his pseudonym "Aliens-Project" and rather calm music, such as ambient, chillout and sound art was published under his real name "Bernd-Michael Land".

At the same time, an additional focus lay on sound design and on commissioned productions for advertisement, theater, film and TV.

In 2006, Bernd-Michael Land became an active member of the "Elektro-Kartell" musicians community's ambient project "EK-Lounge".

www.ek-lounge.de
www.elektro-kartell.de



Other projects in collaboration with other artists were, for example, the LP "Zeitgeist" with "The Dop Experience", Patty Stucky and César Rosón, and the "Skalien" live project with Frankfurt's artist Siegfried Kärcher.

**2014 -Bernd-Michael Land
live @ Luminale Festival
in Sanktpeter church
Frankfurt / Main**



Biography

Particularly worth highlighting are the extremely complex quadrophonic sound art concerts, which were presented from 2011 on, after three years of preparation.

Bernd-Michael Land

Das Lächeln der Bäume

Intervall
Odyssee
Metamorphose
Quintessenz



The impressive work of art "When Trees' Smile" comprises five hours of music in total.

In 2015, it was finally offered as exclusive collector's edition in a strictly limited collection box of 4 CDs.

Since not every concert hall is suitable for quadrophonic performances, the piece had been presented in stereo aswell.

For instance, during Luminale Frankfurt, in the Stadtschloss Fulda, in the Radom on top of the Wasserkuppe as well as on various other festivals.

From 2014 on, several electronic concerts took place in collaboration with the Fuldaer musician Frank Tischer, from which the limited album "live in Radom" emerged.

2014
Bernd-Michael Land
& Frank Tischer live
in the Radom /
Wasserkuppe



Bernd-Michael Land

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Biography

As a result of this collaboration, the electronic duo "THAU" was founded in the same year. Point of musical reference was the seventies classic electronic music (Berliner Schule), supplemented by modern sound elements.

In autumn 2014, recordings in the SynxsS-Studio were started with instant compositions and were followed by a first Album "Elektra" in May 2015.



Another exciting project is called "Das elektronische OHRakel", "the electronic oracle", premiered in the Institut für neue Medien in 2014.

It musically reprocesses and critically questions the wars of the last 60 years.

The pollution of our oceans by plastic waste is addressed in the work "Meeresgrund", "Seabed".

It was created from March until October 2015 and first performed at the Rodgauer Art in October 2015.

The related album was released on World's Environment Day, 2016.

"Transmitter 594kHz" was the last finished project in 2016.

The homage to the good old medium-wave broadcasting was recorded inside the Hessische Rundfunk's former broadcasting Station in Rodgau-Weiskirchen in February 2016.

The album was released in Mai 2017.



Bernd-Michael Land

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New Projects

The "Sound Journey To Himalaya" (Die Klangreise zum Himalaya) is a recent live project, which presented electronic music, singing bowls and gongs from 2016 on, resulting from a collaboration by Bernd-Michael Land and HaDi Schmidt.

A further project has been developed in 2017, resulting in an electronic-acoustic live soundconcert.

"Slowing World" focuses on the rush of the world, sustainability and deceleration. Along with electronic sound creation, asian singing bowls and gongs will be used.



"Bohemian Polyphony" is a collaborative project, formed with 8 other musicians, who all together spent a week on Schloss Kalich in Trebusin (Czech Republik) during September 2016. A double album, released on bandcamp, resulted from it:

<https://bohemianpolyphony.bandcamp.com/releases>



At the same time, Bernd-Michael Land produced several songs for his soloalbum inside his bedroom studio at Schloss Kalich.



There will always be music in uncommon places. Concerts inside the massive cooling tower of a coal-fired power station, inside a planetarium, several churches and at Radom on top of the Wasserkuppe are being planned.

Bernd-Michael Land

**SLOWING
WORLD**

Discography



1974 - "Intake" / MC



1978 - "Flash" / MC



1983 - "Sequential Bitch" / MC



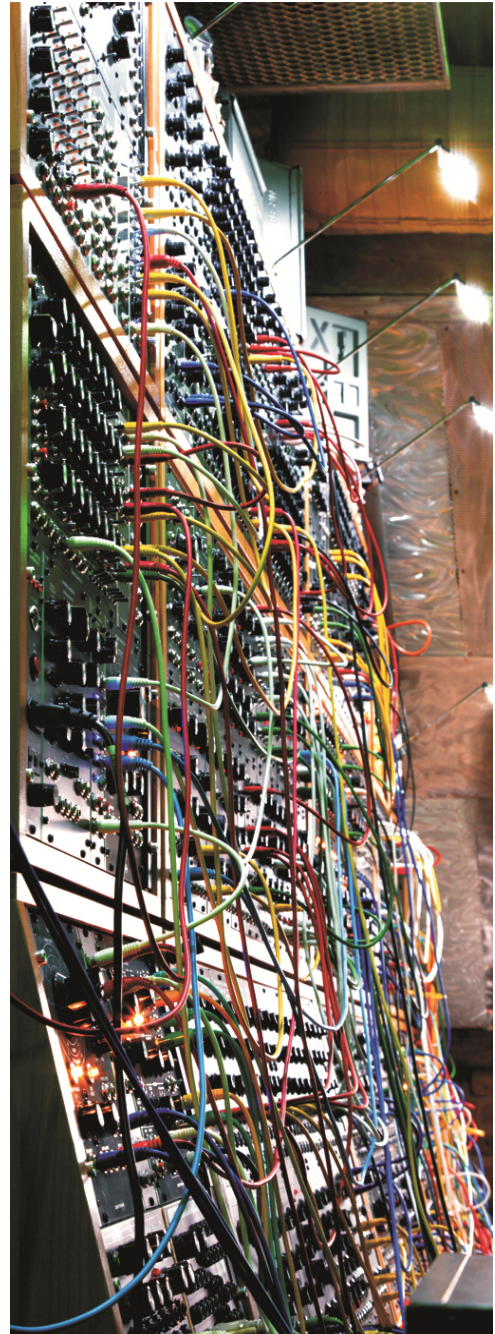
1989 - "Back on Earth" / CD



1999 - "Bikers Paradise" / CD



2001 - "Drop Out" / CD



© Foto: Bluescreen / Stefan Trippler

Discography



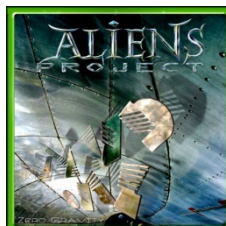
2001 - "TheReMinator" / CD



2006 - "Kamerun da chillaz" / CD



2008 - "Behind the blue Room" / CD



2011 - "Zero Gravity" / CD



2014 - "Live im Radom" (Land&Tischer) / CD



2015 - "Elektra" / Thau mit Frank Tischer

Discography



2015 - "Intervall - Das Lächeln der Bäume" / CD



2015 - "Odyssee - Das Lächeln der Bäume" / CD



2015 - "Metamorphose - Das Lächeln der Bäume" / CD



2015 - "Quintessenz - Das Lächeln der Bäume" / CD



2016 - "Meeresgrund" / CD



2017 - "Transmitter 594kHz" / CD

Bernd-Michael Land

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In Concert

The current concert program:

Bernd-Michael Land – "Das Lächeln der Bäume" (when trees smile)

Bernd-Michael Land – "Meeresgrund" (seabed)

Bernd-Michael Land – "Slowing World"

Bernd-Michael Land – "Hyperreale Reflexion"

2014
Bernd-Michael Land
live in concert
(Frankfurt)



Besides the many concerts in clubs, churches and art exhibitions,
have also performed at various festivals:

Battery-Park Cologne;
Elektro-Waves Festival, Dreieich;
Ambient-Festival, Munich;
Luminale Festivalin der Peterskirche, Frankfurt;
Electro-Bunker Festival, Cologne;
Museumsuferfest Frankfurt;
Ende/Neu, Cologne;
Festivilla, Heidelberg;
Ambient-Art-Festival, Innsbruck;
Zero-One Festival, Heidelberg;
Stage-Cage, Darmstadt;
Rumpfenheimer Kunsttage im Schloss, Offenbach;
LAUT-Festival, Mainz;
Klangraum-Festival, Darmstadt;
Bended Realities Festival im Isenburger Schloss, Offenbach;
Tage des Denkmals im Stadtschloss, Fulda;
Rodgauer Art, Nieder-Roden;
Raum-Zeit-Festival, Dortmund;
Radom, Wasserkuppe;
Planetarium, Bochum;
Weltumwelttag, Rodgau;
Konkretopia Festival, Offenbach;
Glitch It V2 Festival Frankfurt;

Bernd-Michael Land

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The SynxsS-Studio

Here a current view into the fantastically equipped SynxsS Music Studio in Rodgau-Hainhausen.

The picture shows the area with the large modular systems and many analog synthesizers.



The recording area with many synthesizers, effects, digital mixing consoles, master keyboard, outboard and the computer (DAW).



Overview into the new studio, but without all the acoustic instruments.



Bernd-Michael Land

SLOWING WORLD

Contact

Bernd-Michael Land

Music – Sound Art – Sound Design

Am Feldkreuz 7
63110 Rodgau-Hainhausen

Phone:

+49 6106 770046

+49 171 6506156

E-Mail:

synxxs@aol.com

More information:

www.bernd-michael-land.com/



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Bernd-Michael Land

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Bernd-Michael Land / wikipedia: https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bernd-Michael_Land

Bernd-Michael Land / homebase: <http://bernd-michael-land.com/>

Aliens-Project / newsblog (studio&more): <http://aliens-project.de/blog/>

Aliens-Project / homepage and archive: <http://www.aliensworld.de/>

Bembeltechno / homebase: <http://www.bembeltechno.de/>

facebook:

Bernd-Michael Land / official: <https://www.facebook.com/bernielandmusic>

Bernd-Michael Land / privat: <https://www.facebook.com/berndmichael.land>

Bernd-Michael Land / fanpage: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bmlfans/>

Aliens-Project / official: <https://www.facebook.com/aliensproject>

media:

Bernd-Michael Land / youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUvMyhhl1-4c1_x2-C8mt0w

Bernd-Michael Land / soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com/bernd-michaelland>

Aliens-Project / Last.fm: <http://www.last.fm/de/music/Aliens-Project>

Aliens-Project / myspace: <https://myspace.com/alienzworld>

others:

Bernd-Michael Land in the cultural database of the Federal Republic of Germany:

<http://kulturportal.de/-/kulturschaffende/detail/77051>

THAU in the German National Library: <http://d-nb.info/1071415824>

Bernd-Michael Land in the German National Library: <http://d-nb.info/gnd/135521076>

Aliens-Project in the German National Library: <http://d-nb.info/gnd/10343187-1>

