

Ally the Fiddle

Album „UP“ - INFO

When I wrote the new album the band was going new paths already. We finally found to Progressive Rock after we were searching for our musical identity and found a record label („Gentle Art of Music“), expanded the band with a new instrument, the Chapman Stick and followed our red line upwards. Also in my private life things went up: I suddenly were with a little child.

So „UP“ means to strive upwards. But also „Under Pressure“. Because with my new motherhood I now explored a new panic. Panic to stagnate. Indeed I felt like Sisyphos himself after the birth of my son; trapped and thrown back and back again. Because it was the first time in my life I haven't been master of myself and of my resources. Which meant especially to overthink all my old habits as musician. So „Sisyphos“ is the beginning of the album. But is immediately left behind by the upwards movement of the next following songs.

The following nine album tracks move upwards: from the very depth of the ocean, where even the sunlight has to chance (02 „Aphotic Zone“), to the soily shore (03 „The Bass Thing“), following a path (04 „The Path“ - duet for violin and drums, played by Marco Minnemann), crossing a tree (05 „Tree“), then a storm threatens the earth and seems to be unstoppable (06 „Try to stop me“), goes up in the air like a bubble (07 „Living in a Bubble“), until the stratosphere (08 „Entering Stratosphere“) to end finally with the sun in the center (09 „Center Su(o)n“ - a song for my son; center sun as well as center son). With the bonus track (10 „Surfing with the Alien“ - Joe Satriani cover) we are flying through the universe.

Musically the album is inspired by Jazzrock und Progressive Rock, following the flow of the album and makes my preference for the Jazzrock of the 70th clearly noticeable. As usual for our music the duet of violin and guitar gets lots of room. Furthermore the use of my solo instruments should be mentioned: I played with a five-string and finally with a six-string wooden electric violin by „Fidelius“. All orchestral parts on the other hand have been played with my old acoustic violin and an acoustic viola. All by myself and without the use of any synthetic instrument. I did a similar thing with the choir and used only my voice for all parts - except in „Center Su(o)n“ where I am honored to have Alf Ator (Knorkator) for the deep male vocals. Like in the earlier songs of Ally The Fiddle most of the songs are still instrumental, but at least four songs support vocals, in „Tree“ sang by the charmingly rough voice of Buzz Dee (Knorkator).

A special gift for us at the new album are the incredible guest musicians we are able to announce: as my personal one and only idol Jerry Goodman (Violin, „Mahavishnu Orchestra“, „Dixie Dregs“, „The Flock“...), Marco Minnemann (Drums, „Aristocrats“, Steven Wilson, Joe Satriani...), Felix Wiegand (Doublebass, „Dick Brave and the Backbeats“), Jen Majura (Guitar, „Evanescence“), Benni Cellini (Cello, „Letzte Instanz“) , Alf Ator (Choir, „Knorkator“) and Buzz Dee [Sebastian Baur] (Vocals, „Knorkator“).

- Ally Storch

Live Cast: Violin/Vocals, Chapman Stick, 2 Guitars, Bass, Drums

Composition and Lyrics: Ally Storch

Recording: Henning Westland („Knorkator“), Berlin

Mastering: Henning Westland und Marco Nola, Bremen

Record Label: „Gentle Art of Music“, Freising

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