

2RAUMWOHNUNG

NACHT UND TAG

Inga Humpe and Tommi Eckart are flâneurs of the metropolises. As chroniclers of our times, they translate Berlin's beats (and from elsewhere) into ephemeral, atmospheric rich pop songs. For over eighteen years, they have found new approaches to consistently develop their significant sound. Their music stems from a lifetime of constant movement.



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For their previous album "Achtung Fertig", 2raumwohnung crossed the big pond to be inspired by America's West Coast feeling. For their eighth album, they chose a different experimental set-up. Mostly staying home in Berlin, they only sometimes sought inspiration in travel with minimal home-recording equipment in their luggage. This time, places or special studio situations did not dictate the aura of this album. "The inspiration for 'Night and Day' traces back to a piece that we wrote for a film," Inga Humpe recounts. "In this particular scene, some people emerge from a club in the early morning and into the daylight. And in the process, this song transforms from a club track into a sunny guitar piece. In the end, the whole thing was not used for the film. But since then, the idea stuck with us." The outcome was the first double-album of their career. An album that translates the interplay of night-moods and day-moods into two times ten songs.

The first song layouts for "Nacht und Tag" began in January 2015 in the trusted environment of the Brunnen International Studios in Berlin. Previously, 2raumwohnung extensively played clubs and festivals. An interim stage-break was followed-up by a classical music project "Mein Traum ist länger als die Nacht" with the Bochumer Symphoniker. But they could not get the night/day principle, once developed for the screen, out of their heads. This was already apparent in their previous single "Somebody Lonely And Me". The night-version of the single reminds of the cool melancholy of analog 80s electro pop, the day-counterpart changes a simplified spirit

into a sophisticated swing atmosphere. "Since 2raumwohnung originates from the club scene, night had to be named first," Tommi Eckart explains. "We once read this interesting point in an interview with the artist Daniel Richter: 'A different paintbrush results in a different mark on the canvas.' This empowered us to continue working on our at-first kinda hands-on idea and then, try the same song with a synthesizer and for once, paint with the guitar as a paintbrush."

Musical guests like Inga's sister Annette Humpe, Achim Hagemann or Dieter Meier from Yello stopped by and/or immediately participated in individual songs. "When we told Dieter the whole story, he said, supposedly in Shakespeare's plays, actors spoke day and night scenes in different voices. Though we could not find any more facts about this in our research, this old theater principle seemed to fit well with my alternate singing approach."

2raumwohnung continued to pursue their short concise fusion of pop melodies and electronic with "Nacht und Tag". Inga's singing switches-up between English (!) and German like in the tradition of Kraftwerk or Falco. For 2raumwohnung it is a new language-mix that expands their variety of expression. There are electronic chansons, high flying utopias like "Energie Multimillionär" and the fluffy credo of consistent change in "Hey Schmetterling". "Ich bin die Bassdrum" can be understood as a modern love story, and can be heard as a follow-up to their classic „Ich und Elaine". "1993" points with airy strokes to their former techno years, back when all DJs mixed vinyl and schlepped heavy record suitcases. One song is inspired by Marmion's retro trance-track "Schöneberg". However, the "Tag" and "Nacht" versions are in no way resolved matter-of-factly. To just pick minor tones for night-moods and major tones for day-atmospheres was too schematic. Instead, they experimented with their subject.

When asked for a statement about the current state of the club/music scene, Inga and Tommi only answered, "We think we have too little competition." A joke that picks up with some irony on their legendary status. They know that to this day, they have come a long way. But it is also clear to them that the big game begins anew again with "Nacht und Tag". Maybe, or so they plan, a dream that happened in the studio might come true: To play each album live in day-time and night-time concerts.

The first single „Somebody Lonely and Me":

→ <http://bit.ly/somebodylonelyandme>

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