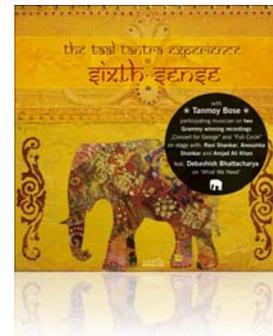




The Taal Tantra Experience

Sixth Sense



Transcendental German-Indian Sound Discourse

While economists and social researchers argue about the pros and cons of globalization in the wake of the worldwide financial crisis, in music, the exchange and collaborations among the most diverse world music sounds and rhythms continue to flower in the most colorful ways. A current example of one such successful cooperation of different music cultures is the Taal Tantra Experience, which started up in 2001 in the German capital when a group of Berlin jazz musicians first met tabla virtuoso Tanmoy Bose.

With Tanmoy Bose, who is touring the world with the greats of classical Indian music Ravi Shankar, Anoushka Shankar, Amjad Ali Khan and who participated on two Grammy winning recordings „Concert for George“ (Eric Clapton) and „Full Circle“, the project really got going, first in Berlin and then on the Indian subcontinent. Tanmoy Bose, who was impressed by the skills and musical curiosity of the four Berlin jazz musicians, invited them to take part in an Indian concert tour in the spring of 2003, which ended up in founding the The Taal Tantra Experience. The band, consisting of percussionist Andreas Weiser (Shank, Xiame, Degas/Weiser „Heimat“), guitarist Kai Brückner (Lisa Bassenge, Jocelyn B. Smith), bassist Max Hughes (Tino Gonzales, Kenny Martin), saxophonist/flutist Bernhard Ullrich (Dem Brooklyn Bums, Beat 'n' Blow) and Tanmoy Bose, produced their first CD in the same year, which however, was only released in India.

Taal Tantra means roughly „Meditation on Rhythm“. Influenced by the meditative power of ragas and their scale-oriented melody phrasing, and the complex rhythms of the Indian taals, the ten tracks on the new album „Sixth Sense“ produced by Andreas Weiser exude nothing less than hypnotic sensuality. Interacting with western jazz harmonics and sound and ambient-based production philosophy, a trans-continental sound emerged in which each element of style harmonizes equally with the others.

Recorded in a production process lasting about two years in Berlin and Calcutta, the quintett sees its current work as a permanently developing experiment of cultural west-east collaboration. A collaboration which feeds on musical contrasts and always leads to new, trendsetting results in the end. An enthralling and extremely audiolicious process. The energetic and energy-laden songs from the Taal Tantra Experience rev up both body and mind. The colorful sonority is amplified by Indian slide guitarist Battacharia (Shakti) and Bengalese "Baul" singer Basu Deb, who lend the European coating of 'Sixth Sense' an additional traditional Indian note.