
VITAL WEEKLY

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number 821

week 9

* noted are in this week's podcast. Feed at
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IKUE MORI & SIMON BALESTRAZZI & SYLVIE
CORUVOISIER & ALESSANDRO OLLA & MAJA S.K.
RATKJE - TREASURE HUNT (CD by Ticon Zero)

In October 2010 these five persons meet up at the Signal festival and played together. The two days before their concert they played together in a studio, resulting in these eight pieces of improvised music. We have here Ikue Mori (electronics), Simon Balestrazzi (electronics, prepared toy psaltery), Sylvie Courvoisier (piano, prepared piano), Alessandro Olla (sound sculptures, electronics) and Maja S.K. Ratkje (voice, toys, live electronics). This is quite interesting stuff. I have no idea what kind of post-editing took place afterwards, but the whole thing has a great vibrant character. A fine clash of acoustic and electronic sounds, bouncing off and on together. While I have no idea, I must also say that I am pretty much convinced that

the whole thing was captured with a bunch of microphones and mixed together later on. Sounds pop up from now with great clarity (the piano, the voice) and move as easily between pure acoustics - toys, piano - and electronics. It has more fine balances: between loud and soft, sparse vs busy, many and few dynamics. Throughout there is something to be found around here and it makes a fine release throughout. A quintet of voices (real ones, but obviously also their own instruments) which are all seasoned players who come up with a great work, seemingly quite easily, but perhaps not as easy as we think. Whatever might be the case, its a fine work of great electro-acoustic improvisation. (FdW)

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