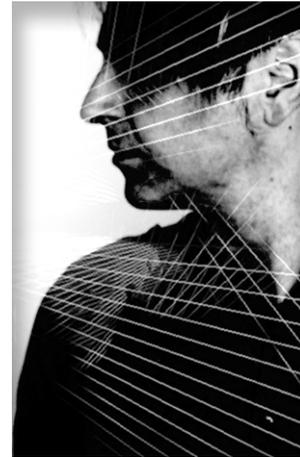
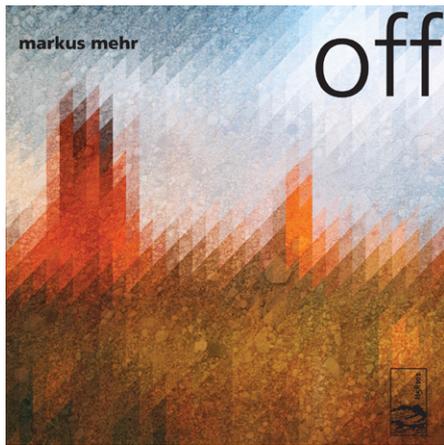


Markus Mehr – *Off*



Augsburg, Germany; Perth, Western Australia; 7 February 2013. Hidden Shoal Recordings is proud to announce the release of new album *Off* by German experimental ambient artist Markus Mehr, the third and final part of a trilogy that includes the critically acclaimed releases *In* and *On*.

Off is not only the culmination of Markus Mehr's trilogy, but it may also be the culmination of his career's work thus far. The single-track album begins in silence, as a thrumming loop gradually emerges. From there, a beautiful piano refrain is introduced, noise ebbs and flows, threatening to engulf the piece, while field recordings and swooningly transportive synth patterns drift into focus. During its 42-minute runtime, the piece immerses the listener in a dizzyingly beautiful soundworld that's ever-shifting. Certain passages allude to other sequences and samples in the preceding albums, linking the three albums into a kaleidoscopic mobius strip.

"a cornucopia of samples, field recordings and distorted drones, and is highly recommended to fans of William Basinski, Tim Hecker and Fennesz." – **My Old Kentucky Blog reviewing *On***

"It's like some twilight netherworld dreamt up by David Lynch, and very much like his creations, even though you may be disorientated, and even a little afraid, you won't want to leave... Take some time for a wonderful magic carpet ride." – **The Underground of Happiness reviewing *On***

"... prepare for a shuddering, near chaotic, kaleidoscopic experience as Mehr challenges our and his own preconceptions of what "electronica" is, what it represents and of what his instrumentation can achieve." – **Delusions of Adequacy reviewing *On***

"It is a process of constant repetition and tension building with each tiny fragment or loop coming in to focus, one by one, little by little, to end up as an emphatically crushing work of art... It is minimalism that gives birth to the epic, intelligent music that takes over its listeners and engages them to its very dying moments." – **The Silent Ballet reviewing *In***

Based in Augsburg, south Germany, Markus Mehr's musical journey began with the guitar. He grew up listening to metal and prog rock, before turning his ears to darker sounds and ethereal, experimental pop. After recording and touring with several bands, he struck out on his own with the home studio project Aroma.

Now working under his own name, Mehr wrote and recorded his debut album *Lava* at his home studio using guitars and synths, plus any noise-making accoutrements at hand – electric shavers, ventilators, electric tooth brushes and field recordings – all processed and distorted to create a gorgeous wall of sound, akin to the classic '70s Kosmische music of Klaus Schulze and Tangerine Dream, but also the contemporary masters of textured luminosity, Fennesz and Tim Hecker.

Off is available digitally on the 24th of January and as a limited edition CD on the 7th of February released through Hidden Shoal Recordings.

Hidden Shoal Recordings is an Australia-based independent music label that has earned a reputation for releasing exciting and engaging new independent music that is not bound by genre or style. Hidden Shoal Recordings has been chosen as one of Textura magazine's favourite labels, has been dubbed "This generation's 4AD" by prominent New York radio host DJ Mojo, and has been described by The Mountain Goats' frontman John Darnielle as "one of the great wonders of our age".

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High Res Publicity Images: <http://music.hiddenshoal.com/publicity>

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