

VANISHING BREED

between arrival and departure

Pingipung / Kompakt
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INTERVIEWS: 26th of september 05, Berlin



Alexander Holmes is a British singer-songwriter who is currently based in Berlin. He's also one of the masterminds of the anarchistic London crew "They Came From The Stars, I Saw Them". His solo project is called VANISHING BREED and it would be rather a shame if someone like him were actually among the species to become extinct. Songwriter, guitarist and poet Alexander Holmes has developed a wonderful and unique style all of his own.

Vanishing Breed uses surreal imagery for his lyrics, while his music often tends to have an element of misplacement. A moment of irritation - like a stain on a shirt or a picture that hangs crooked in its frame. What makes the music of Vanishing Breed so particular is the surprise factor, the deliberate out-of-placeness and unexpectedly drastic. Naïve, merry songs tripping over their feet from the abrupt hefty dancehall beat. Rhythmic changes and sudden chaos in the arrangement prevents the listener from getting too comfortable while enjoying the warm-sounding voice and the Africanesque high-life guitar picking.

Holmes' humour and the often slightly surreal settings of his stories unite in fantastic, dreamy alliances. Vanishing Breed is interested in the poetry that can be found in strange everyday situations. He not only takes us into the parallel worlds of airports and train stations, to the waiting lounges of long-distance relationships. No – this album is a parallel world in itself, full of people waltzing and waving from balconies.

How very fitting that for the pre-release party of "Between Arrival And Departure" the gifted entertainer Holmes invited people to the main building of Berlin Tempelhof Airport. This man takes his inspiration not only from African but also from traditional British folklore, and is best experienced live.

If you like romantically twisted songs and stories you'll love "Between Arrival And Departure"! And if you listen to this album and don't have the enchanting "checking in, checking out" stuck in your head, you didn't listen closely enough.