



ANDREAS DORAU

Blumen und Narzissen (1981) + Bonus

CD / LP (180g vinyl) / download
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Tracklisting:

01. Tulpen und Narzissen
02. Einkauf
03. Junger Mann
04. Reisen
05. Fred vom Jupiter
06. Nordsee
07. Ich hab das Glück
08. Ernst
09. Lokomotivführer
10. Alter Maler
11. Arrividerci

Bonus:

12. Auch die Heimat ist nicht mehr schön
13. Der lachende Papst
14. Sehnsucht nach dem Osten
15. Negermuskeln
16. Sommer im Dornrosental
17. Wir basteln uns ein Auto

Discography:

1981 Blumen und Narzissen
1983 Offenherzige Antworten auf brennende Fragen
1988 Demokratie
1992 Ärger mit der Unsterblichkeit
1994 neu!
1997 70 Minuten Musik ungeklärter Herkunft
2005 Ich bin der eine von uns beiden
2011 Todesmelodien

Promo contact:

Bureau B
Matthias Kümpflein
Tel. 0049-(0)40-881666-63
mk@bureau-b.com

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Essential facts

- The musician: Andreas Dorau, born 1964, is a marvellous pop musician, equipped with the choicest humour and the gift of creating wonderful melodies. Aged 16, he wrote the huge hit "Fred vom Jupiter" and has been championed erroneously as representing German New Wave (NDW) ever since. His current album was released in 2011, bearing the title "Todesmelodien".
- The music: "Blumen und Narzissen" (1981) is Dorau's first LP: an independent product and an accordingly unpolished production. "Fred vom Jupiter" is just one of many good-tempered and infectious pop hits included.
- Reissue in digipak with liner notes, rare photos and **five bonus tracks, all of which are appearing on CD for the first time**
- available on CD, as a download or 180g vinyl

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If it had been up to Andreas Dorau's teacher, "Fred vom Jupiter", his biggest hit, would never have seen the light of day. The sixteen year-old Dorau wrote the song during project week at school and his tutor was of the opinion that the composition was therefore the intellectual property of his institute of learning. Luckily, the teacher in question didn't get his way. And, as they say, the rest is history.

In the year 1981, the small, cool Düsseldorf label Ata Tak first released "Fred vom Jupiter" as a single, selling 20,000 copies in the space of a few months, followed up by the "Blumen und Narzissen" LP. It is a strange album. For the most part conceived and executed by a 16 year-old on a family holiday in the mountains. And what is even more extraordinary: it was successful. For "Blumen und Narzissen" was a pop album, and when one considers the time (1981) and place (FRG) of its creation, then nothing would have appeared to have had less of a chance of success than a pop album in Germany. The mainstream charts were led by the Smurfs and Ernst Mosch, bars and discos resounded to the sound of Deutschrock and blues, whilst beyond the mainstream, well-meaning tree-huggers and punks ruled the roost – two marginal groups whose seriousness was a bore. A tiny niche was occupied by Dorau's soulmates, the likes of Der Plan, Palais Schaumburg et al, but in this very niche they were destined to remain.

"Blumen und Narzissen" is – even decades later – a great album. Dorau had actually planned on issuing not just the one single on Ata Tak, but ten further singles, each on a different independent label he admired. Thus "Blumen und Narzissen" sounds just like that: a collection of singles. "Nordsee", "Junger Mann", "Tulpen und Narzissen" certainly had the potential to become hits. Connaisseurs will note parallels to the golden years of pop: singles, a girl group (Die Marinas), a passion for style.

And now? Not much has really changed. The German charts continue to showcase an equally gruesome parade of local talent.

And because good pop music is good pop music, "Blumen und Narzissen" has found and will continue to find fans both at home and abroad. Both strange and contrary, "Blumen und Narzissen" sounds neither old-fashioned nor 30 years old.

This re-release marks the beginning of Bureau B's series of reissues from Düsseldorf's legendary Ata Tak label. Forthcoming albums will include works by Der Plan, Pyrolator, D.A.F. and Oval.