Never late for a surprise, Laurent de Wilde has landed a big one with his new album PC Pieces.

PC PIECES - Laurent de Wilde & Otisto 23

Formerly known as a straight ahead jazz player and a renowned biographer of pianist Thelonious Monk, Laurent has jumped into this century by confronting his acoustic world with the universe of electronics. Seven years and four albums (one entirely acoustic) later, de Wilde comes with a new project combining the two facets of his talent.

The album's principle is simple : to create music in real time with a computer that records, loops, treats and organizes sounds originating from the piano only - on the keyboard but also on every part of the instrument that is likely to produce a sound. The essential originality of this project is that the music is created live and builds itself as it goes along.

This kind of adventure can hardly be tempted alone. Once a piano player who became a sound engineer, an early electronic explorer and an accomplished live set performer, Otisto 23 is the ideal partner for this project. Thanks to his amazing technical virtuosity, he transforms the computer into an actual performing musical instrument engaged in this duo with the piano.

The music stemming from this perilous construction is hard to define : however abstract the sounds can become, the piano remains at the center of these driftings, like a boat of metal, felt and wood sailing on a digital sea. Minimalist, full of space, the universe created by this confrontation between a piano and a computer expresses the serenity of an inner journey that is accessible to all ears.

The very object is in itself exceptional : presented with a fabric hard cover, it comprises a 40-pages booklet in french and english with original photos, explaining the long process that led to this recording. Such a particular project called for a special presentation, hence the choice of a dual disc (audio on one side, video on the other) that offers a one hour synchronized video by Bernard Filipetti as well as a film of a live concert given with this repertoire in march 2007 at the Opéra de Lyon (recorded and edited by Antoine Imbert and Cedric Delport)

Also to be noted : the participation of Loan, a french electro artist, on the title Peace and the Hump.

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