



Title | CODEX
Artist | Mohammad Reza Mortazavi
Label | flowfish.records
Distribution | Broken Silence Independent Distribution
Release | 28.03.2013

Mohammad Reza Mortazavi - CODEX

On March 28 the Iranian drum virtuoso Mohammad Reza Mortazavi released yet another solo album on flowfish.records. CODEX is joining the ranks of its successful predecessors of the past years. Scaled down to two hands and a drum. Live and without overdubs.

On his album „Green Hands“ (2010) the exiled Iranian took a firm political stand, by releasing a solo percussion CD and expressing solidarity for the green revolution in his home country, which was the cause of much sensation and enthusiastic audiences all over the world. The release of Green Hands opened many doors, ranging from extensive coverage in the media (Voice of America, BBC, ARTE or ZDF) to a solo performance in the Berlin Philharmonie.

He has since returned to focusing entirely on his art, consistently evolving as a musician and composer. His album „Gerade Aus“ (2011) is an outlook on his future journey...

In the summer of 2012 he was touring his GERADE AUS program at a variety of artistic festivals as well as some of Europe's big open-air festivals, for example, Rio Loco (Toulouse) or Roskilde (Denmark), captivating entirely new audiences.

On his new album CODEX, the 34-year-old exceptional artist dares the impossible: standing firm while transcending all borders.

Mohammad Reza Mortazavi returns to tradition with a fresh breath of modern zeitgeist. His concentration remains – just like a spinning gyroscope – simply on point! The entire album with all its variations, melodies, polyphonies, sounds and effects is based on the most notable foundation of Persian music: the 6/8 rhythm.

The album has been scaled down to the most important instrument of Persian culture, which also happens to be the first instrument of his career, the tombak. With regards to content the result quite obviously breaks with forms of the tradition and artistically transcending all of its boundaries while creating a unique yet universal CODEX.

Kontakt, Promotion und Booking:

flowfish.music | basti hofmann | richardstrasse 29 | D-12043 berlin
tel +49 (0)30 56 82 29 56 | funk +49 (0)177 63 27 585
basti@flowfish.de | www.flowfish.de
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Facing the pressure of his adversaries – the conservatives – and in between opposites Mohammad Reza Mortazavi successfully maintains his poise with a simple drum. Through limits imposed, he experiences liberty, celerity will calm him down.

His message is simple and clear: ALL IS ONE

Musically Mohammad Reza Mortazavi has yet again crossed numerous boundaries: aural boundaries, boundaries of what seems possible to date, and his very own boundaries. The album, driven by a solid 6/8 rhythm throughout, by and large is very danceable, yet also features more narrative compositions. The latter are home to a variety of voices and emotion, merging with one another while trailing off into endless thoughts.

„My musical influence had been established during my childhood days in Isfahan. They were simple moments of daily life. Falling leaves on the sidewalks, sounds of Zayandeh River in the woods, bouncing balls in an empty room, speed of sunset in the horizon, spinning top in a moment of losing a balance... Among these phenomena I saw a common rhythm. „Shish-Hashtom (6/8)“ - the tempo used in traditional Persian music. Those became a basis of my inspiration. Codex is a musical transcript of laws of our universe through my roots of influence.“
(Mohammad Reza Mortazavi 2013)

„Rhythm and spirituality – Mortazavi combines both and delivers incredible energy through his music“ (NDR 2012)

www.moremo.de

Live:

12.04.2013 Brotfabrik FRANKFURT
13.04.2013 Schlachthof BREMEN
20.04.2013 Mon Ami WEIMAR
23.04.2013 Domicil DORTMUND
27.04.2013 Kulturfabrik HILDESHEIM
02./03.05.2013 Kirchentag HAMBURG
07.05.2013 Weltmusikfestival – Schlachthof KASSEL
09./10.05.2013 Colours of Percussion –
Percussionfestival LINZ (AT)
18.05.2013 Odeion SALZBURG (AT)
25.05.2013 Konzert ZÜRICH (CH)
15.06.2013 Respekt Festival PRAG (CZ)



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