



Research > MEMORABILIA. COLLECTING SOUNDS WITH... William Bennett

MEMORABILIA. COLLECTING SOUNDS WITH... seeks to break through to unearth and reveal private collections of music and sound *memorabilia*. It is a historiography of sound collecting that reveals the unseen and passionate work of the amateur collector while reconstructing multiple parallel histories such as the evolution of recording formats, archiving issues, the collecting market and the evolution of musical styles beyond the marketplace.

Each episode in the series is accompanied by an additional programme featuring an exclusive music selection by each of the collectors.

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Music selection by William Bennett.

Since the late seventies, William Bennett has been at the forefront of extreme and experimental music. As front man of the legendary group Whitehouse, and more recently of his project Cut Hands, Bennett's artistic output goes beyond the merely musical and makes inroads into the field of the psychology of language, sociology, perception, the occult and the magical. <http://williambennett.blogspot.com/>

MEMORABILIA. COLLECTING SOUNDS WITH...

William Bennett. Part II

A musical selection of some of the secret jewels found in William Bennett's sound collection, discovering rare percussion music from West-Africa.

01. Summary

There's something particularly intoxicating about sheer physiological functionality in music. About being acted upon to the extent where granted permission and forceful imperative become giddily indistinguishable. Not that you're worrying over the distinction anyway when a sound takes you whipsawing around into juddering surrender bordering on then slipping into ecstasy. There just isn't any need to worry about responsible agency, who or what is answerable for the sudden tyranny of basest autonomy. You're a character, very nonfiction.

The height of aural power is when a piece you've never heard and can't place finds you more wantonly suggestible than you'd readily volunteer. And manifests its hold physically. Experienced outside and beyond their original context these specially mixed African and Haitian percussion pieces evince an extra-intentional intent, a rhythmic seizure of rational faculties. Timidity of the permeable body, rigid abhorrence of the ass, are not long for this world. Too much won't be enough.

Merciless non-judgmental ambiguity: your balled-up two-fisted convictions defer to a point of gravity somewhere lower, tag team target of relentless djembe and doun-doun polyrhythms. Best let it exercise full reign, best allow yourself a suspension of the bounds of good sense, an equivocal lapse into that unsafe territory where content is subservient to effect. Sublime indulgence in existential power-play.

William Bennett & Mimsy DeBlois, Edinburgh, 14th December, 2011

02. Playlist

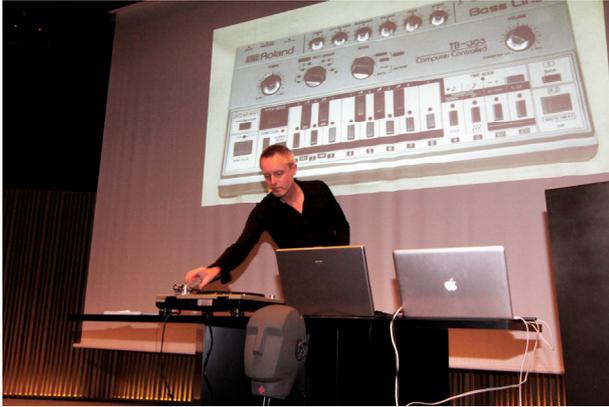
Part II

- Les Tambours de Brazza 'Bac-City' (Playasound, 1996)
- Haiti / Les 101 Nations du Vaudou 'Rhythme Petro' (Buda Musique, 2005)
- Soungalo Coulibaly / L'Art du Djembé 'Gbwegbwe' (Arion, 2009)
- Africa Djembé Orchestra 'Doudoumba' (Playasound, 1994)
- Burundi Musiques Traditionelles 'Half Whispered, Half Exhaled Chant' (Ocora, 1988)
- Ghana Funeral Music / Drums Of Death 'Adova 1' (Avant, 1997)
- Haiti/Voodoo Drums 'Boumba' (Universal Sound, 2001)
- Percussions Malinke 'Damba' (Buda Musique, 1999)
- Tambours du Burundi 'Uri Inyambo Burundi' (Playasound, 1992)
- Wassa 'Borhomasi Fare' (Buda Musique, 1999)

03. Related links

William Bennett blog
<http://williambennett.blogspot.com>

Susan Lawly
www.susanlawly.freeuk.com



[William Bennett during the MEMORABILIA. COLLECTING SOUNDS WITH... lecture, 2011]

DJ Benetti blog
<http://italoblack.blogspot.com>

Cut Hands blog
<http://djcuthands.blogspot.com>

Come Organisation
www.artnotart.com/come

MEMORABILIA. COLLECTING SOUNDS WITH... lecture series, Spring 2011
www.macba.cat/controller.php?p_action=show_page&pagina_id=33&inst_id=30547

Conversation with William Bennett, Spring 2011
http://rwm.macba.cat/es/extra/memorabilia_william_bennett_conversation/capsula

Interview with William Bennett, 2011
www.bangthebore.org/archives/853

Interview with William Bennett, 2011
<http://thequietus.com/articles/07199-william-bennett-cut-hands-whitehouse-interview>

Interview with Cut Hands, 2011
www.factmag.com/2011/07/29/cut-hands-afro-noise-i/

'Stormtrooper Electronics: An Abridged Lesson in the History of Whitehouse by Michael Moynihan'
www.esoterra.org/whouse.htm

Cut Hands mix for FACT Magazine:
<http://www.factmag.com/2011/09/16/fact-mix-283-cut-hands/>

04. Acknowledgements

Special thanks to William Bennett, Mimsy DeBlois, Jon Leidecker, Raül G. Pratginestós, Roc Jiménez de Cisneros, Yolanda Nicolàs, José Ignacio Fournier and Lluís Surós. Music selection by William Bennett.

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