

PRESS RELEASE

IMPEKA



Album title: Momentary Masters of a Fraction of a Dot

Artists: Jonas Gustafsson & Simon Underwood

Release date: 1st August 2018

Format: 2xCD + digital download | first edition of 55 hand numbered copies

Label: IMPEKA | !CD002

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IMPEKA are delighted to unleash this behemoth of a release containing just over an hour and thirty minutes of electroacoustic noise, disintegrating tape loops, broken instruments and hacked electronics.

Recorded in a railway arch space in Deptford, this slab of sonics - ranging from sombre to hopeful, meditative to chaotic - grew from a series of improvised jams, fragmented scores, discussions and anguish taking place over a period of several rainy months in early 2017. With time, these fragments and experiments began to come together and make sense as a coherent whole, sewn together by the rumbling of the trains passing by overhead.

Performed by individuals of completely different generations and nationalities, the pieces presented on these discs not only reflect the rapid gentrification of the area in which they were recorded, but also exist as aural contemplations on the climate after United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union, the most recent presidential election in the United States, as well as the migrant crisis and the rise of far-right politics both in England and continental Europe. The music is perhaps as unsettling, disjointed and confounding as the results of the aforementioned events that linger and continue to affect us.

After a chance meeting in New Cross, Southeast London in 2010, **Simon Underwood** (ex-Pop Group; **Conspirators of Pleasure**) and **Jonas Gustafsson** (**IMPEKA**) have collaborated in some capacity - most recently during a residency at **Usurp Art Space** in Harrow together with **Poulomi Desai**, which resulted in the **Conspirators of Pleasure** cassette "The Usurp Tapes, Vol. I: Species of Spaces" released in 2017. "Momentary Masters of a Fraction of a Dot" marks this duo's first release, with a number of further collaborative efforts in the works.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Having co-founded the post-punk outfit **The Pop Group**, **Simon Underwood** has been active in experimental music and filmmaking since the early 80's, as well as running a number of independent record labels. His current practice is focused on DIY electronics (circuit bending, hardware hacking and instrument building), free-improv performances and exploring new forms of compositional processes. In 2012 he formed the experimental noise duo **Conspirators of Pleasure** with **Poulomi Desai**, discharging their chaotic and extraordinary soundscape performances throughout the UK, Europe and India. Their recent UK-wide "**Usurp Chance Tour**" together with **Stewart Lee** explored perceptual concepts of chance, time, listening and humour, and the breadth and parameters of improvisational approaches in new music. In 2015/17 **Conspirators of Pleasure** contributed two compositions to the forward looking **Waywords & Meansigns** project setting **James Joyce's** bizarre novel, "**Finnegans Wake**" to music. Simon is also the co-founder of the **Usurp Art Space** in London where he is an associate artist and active contributor to the collective.

www.conspire.org.uk | www.usurp.org.uk | www.waywordsandmeansigns.com/artists/the-conspirators-of-pleasure/

Jonas Gustafsson is an artist whose main interest lies in the field of phonography, and how the listening experience can alter our sense and perception of place and environment. He is also continuously exploring and performing improvised music using percussion, guitar, electronics and found objects. Past installations, residencies and performances have taken place at **SoundFjord**, **Café OTO** and **Barbican**, London, UK, as well as **HUT**, Vienna, AT; work has also been presented on **BBC Radio 3: Late Junction**, **Resonance FM** and **Framework Radio**. More recent events include appearing as a guest of **Thor Harris'** (ex-**Swans**) ensemble **Thor & Friends** at the Lexington, London, UK during their 2017 tour of Europe, as well as at the 2018 edition of the **Whitstable Biennale** Satellite, where he organised and took part in a performance and artist talk together with fellow sound artists **Peter Coyte** and **Thomas Gardner**. Jonas is an associate artist of **Usurp Art Space** and runs the **IMPEKA** imprint.

IMPEKA began operating in early 2017 and, from its Southeast London base, is dedicated to promoting and presenting experimental music and art through musical releases, performances, film and printed matter. Since its inception **IMPEKA** has organised a number of events, talks and performances, and released several limited edition works by a wide range of artists.

www.impeka.org