

La Bâtie-Festival de Genève

02-17.09.2016



Mike Simonetti ^{US}

Dinner ^{DK}

Soirée Aqua-fraîche



Me 07.09 23h

Lieu central, Maison communale de Plainpalais
Ouverture des portes à 22h



Un prénom pour l'ancrage Nord-Américain, de Portland plus exactement ; un nom aux origines italiennes, très à propos pour ce grand polisseur des vestiges de l'italo disco. Passé par les plus grands clubs new-yorkais des années 80-90, Mike Simonetti s'est affirmé comme un redoutable promoteur de soirées et un remarquable patron de labels. Son association avec Johnny Jewel au sein d'Italians Do It Better et la signature de Chromatics et Glass Candy, deux emblèmes du label, l'ont rendu incontournable aux yeux des fans d'electro pop subtile et sensuelle. Son DJ set sera précédé du danois Dinner, signature du label Captured Tracks (écurie du désinvolte Mac DeMarco) dont la synthpop s'inscrit dans l'héritage de Simple Minds ou des Psychedelic Furs. Vous avez dit rétro-futuriste ?

Mike Simonetti

Born in Bayonne NJ, Mike Simonetti grew up a hardcore punk kid in the New York hardcore scene in the mid 1980s. Through friends involved in the club scene, he began going to nightclubs during the heyday of NYC nightlife - the late 1980s. By 1989, he landed a job at the legendary club Mars as a promoter. During that time he became friends with the djs and club promoters of the day, and it was then he got his first taste of djing - going out and working at clubs like Palladium, The Tunnel, Save The Robots, Soul Kitchen, The Red Zone, Building, NASA, The Limelight...

After Mars (and pretty much all the nightclubs in NYC) closed, Mike started Troubleman Records - releasing seminal releases by Unwound, Erase Errata, Glass Candy, Black Dice, Death Comet Crew, Wolf Eyes, Pixeltan, Chromatics, The Walkmen, Devendra Banhart, and over 170 other releases spanning every imaginable genre and format. The label is still going strong with flagship bands Glass Candy, Growing, Chromatics, and Wolf Eyes taking over the world.

In 1998 Mike started his first weekly party in NYC at the Knitting Factory called « Contort Yourself » focusing on reviving old disco and post punk. During that time Mike was a resident DJ at the infamous Happy Birthday Hideout loft parties in Brooklyn. The HBH parties were known to pack in over 600 people a month and sometimes go almost 12 hours straight into the next afternoon.

In 2003, Mike and Chris Catalyst, his partner from Happy Birthday Hideout, started « Aerosol Burns » - a weekly party at the very tiny bar Boogaloo in Brooklyn. The party was intentionally small, and lasted a year. It has since gained legendary status. Bands like Glass Candy, The Fall, The Gossip, Excepter, and the Yeah Yeah Yeahs all played surprise shows in a venue that holds under 100 people, and the party was known to stay open after hours and go long into the morning - (until the cops raided the place at 10am !) The party then ended forever.

In 2005 Mike and Dan Selzer released *Crazy Rhythms* mix cd - which showcased a mix of all genres of dance music ranging from Italo to post punk. It went over pretty well, and sold out pretty quick. In 2006, Mike started a sub-label based on a blog that was started as a joke, sort of. Italians Do It Better was meant to be a fun disco record collectors blog - but that turned into a serious full time sub-label focusing strictly on limited run cdrs and 12"s by his favorite producers, groups, and remixers. Some serious stuff is planned ! The future will bring some killer releases, and Mike is very happy with Italians.

Dinner

Dinner is the alias for Danish singer and producer Anders Rhedin. Since 2012, Dinner has released 2 EPs and a guided meditation-tape.

Dinner lives a somewhat nomadic existence, having alternated between LA, Berlin, and Copenhagen for years. This last year, Dinner's itinerary has included falling in love with a baroness in Berlin, being taught Qi Gong from a renowned Sifu on a mountainside in the Algarve, working on commercial pop songs in Hollywood ("The essence of dark magic", according to Dinner), and playing shows at festivals and galleries all over Europe.

Dinner's songs seem to be inspired by his own life – in the lyrics you find references to cities, parties, and girls (the latter sometimes referred to as 'the divine feminine'). Dinner himself claims that "all the songs are about death and transcendence".

What does Dinner sound like then ? According to Dinner's friend Kim LAS something like:

"An unruly dream immersed in sexual exhibitionism, un-dogmatic New Age, and perfectly measured idiosyncrasy mixed up with fumbling grandeur and awkward, arena-sized pop hooks." Or maybe one could say that Dinner sounds like a sun-bleached cassette-tape you find stuck behind your car's dashboard that was last played at a party in Dusseldorf in 1984 – full of echoes of sweaty depressions, spiritual longings, and early morning trances.

Sometimes Dinner sounds a bit like melodic EBM meets euro-pop meets darkwave meets Denmark. And sometimes he sounds more like a male descendant of Nico singing Eno-esque pop songs on discarded Julian Cope tracks.



Infos pratiques

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