

MOEBIUS PLANK NEUMEIER ZERO SET

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ESSENTIAL FACTS

- The protagonists: Dieter Moebius, pioneer of electronic music from its very inception (member of Cluster and Harmonia); Conny Plank, legendary Krautrock producer (NEU!, Can, Guru Guru, Ash Ra Temple, Grobschnitt and more); Mani Neumeier, drummer and founder of Guru Guru
- The music: dark electronica, "motorik" rhythms
- *Zero Set* (1983) was the third Moebius & Plank project
- Liner notes by Asmus Tietchens
- Available on CD (digipak) and 180g vinyl

- Cover download and music samples: www.bureau-b.com/releases
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In 1983, Dieter Moebius (Cluster) and legendary producer Conny Plank teamed up for the third time, resulting in the *Zero Set* project. On this occasion, they were backed up by one of the best drummers on the German rock scene: Mani Neumeier of Guru Guru. Moebius had got to know and admire him as the live drummer for Harmonia (Moebius, Roedelius, Rother) and during the recording sessions for their second album (*De Luxe*).

Conny Plank, usually more of a background figure as producer, takes an equal share of the lime-light alongside the musicians. His supermodern studio is brought into play like an instrument in its own right; Plank explores the full range of audio editing, pushing recording techniques to the limit to achieve maximum brilliance and plasticity. Neumeier uses all of his many years of experience as a drummer, demonstrating the precision and stamina of a drum machine, just infinitely livelier and more inventive. And finally, to Moebius. Always one of the patriarchs of German electronic music, a creator of the most bizarre sound happenings, yet never sounding forced or

arbitrary. On the contrary, he consistently worked within the context of the tracks themselves and their relationship to each other.

The music on *Zero Set* flows both smoothly and energetically. No single idea is overplayed, none of the tracks hits the ten minute mark. Aural and musical structures are concentrated to the point of askesis, yet there is no mistaking just how much the musicians are relishing playing together – these are the two very different, yet defining characteristics of the album. Moebius, Neumeier and Plank are unsentimental in their use of technology, exploiting it as an effective tool in pursuit of their musical vision. Three musicians at the top of their game and far too smart to allow their efforts to drift into psychedelic meanderings.

Tracklisting

1. SPEED DISPLAY (5:12)
2. LOAD (5:17)
3. PITCH CONTROL (6:22)
4. ALL REPRO (3:26)
5. RECALL (8:34)
6. SEARCH ZERO (8:40)

