



## PHANTOM BAND Phantom Band

In stores: Mar 12th, 2010 • Label: Bureau B

Cat No: BB45 • CD 942942 / LP 942941 (180g vinyl)

EAN (CD) 4-047179-429429 EAN (LP) 4-04719-429412



## PHANTOM BAND Freedom of Speech

In stores: Mar 12th 2010 • Label: Bureau B

Cat No: BB46 • CD 942952 / LP 942951 (180g vinyl)

EAN (CD) 4-04719-429528 EAN (LP) 4-04719-429511

### AT A GLANCE

- Band members: Jaki Liebezeit (Can etc.), Rosko Gee (Can, Traffic), Helmut Zerlett, Dominik von Senger (Damo Suzuki Band), O. Gelba, S. Ancel, Guest: Holger Czukay
- Can-style monotonic polyrhythms meet afrobeat, funk, jazz, reggae, dub (debut album). Dub/reggae and dark avant-garde rock ("Freedom of Speech")
- For fans of: Can, Damo Suzuki Band, Talking Heads, Fela Kuti, A Certain Ratio



Bizarre, how the magnificence of some music only comes to be recognized retrospectively. The albums of the Cologne combo put together by Can drummer Jaki Liebezeit undoubtedly falls into that category. In spite of continuing in the vein of the last three Can albums, the Phantom Band (recording three albums themselves) remained unknown to many who would count themselves fans of Can.

The two LPs from 1980 ("Phantom Band") and 1981 ("Freedom Of Speech") are quite different to each other – although there was just a single change in personnel: whilst ex-Can bass player Rosko Gee (earlier Steve Winwood's bassist in Traffic, now with the Helmut Zerlett Band) played a significant part in both the music and the production of the first, he was absent from the next. The surviving quartet managed without a bass for the most part (or substituted a keyboard) and invited spoken word performer Sheldon Ancel to step up to the microphone.

And whilst the debut album revealed many Caribbean or African influences and a generally positive frame of mind, "Freedom of Speech" is a somewhat darker avant-garde rock manifesto, interspersed with individual dub or reggae pieces. All they have in common are Jaki Liebezeit's inimitable polyrhythmic drumming and the Phantom Band's predilection for hypnotic (Jamaican) grooves.


Regular Phantom Band members alongside Jaki Liebezeit included keyboarder Helmut Zerlett, known to a wider television audience in Germany through the "Harald Schmidt Show", percussionist Olek Gelba and guitarist Dominik von Senger, all drawn from the deep pool of Cologne musical talent which has given rise to so many projects over the past thirty years: Dunkelziffer, Damo Suzuki Band, Unknown Cases ("Masimba Bele"), Club Off Chaos, Trance Groove, to name just a few.

The CD booklet and LP insert features comments by Jaki Liebezeit, Helmut Zerlett and Dominik von Senger, bringing to life the creation and unique chemistry of the Phantom Band.

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### Tracklist PHANTOM BAND

1. You Inspired Me
2. I'm The One
3. For M.
4. Phantom Drums
5. Absolutely Straight
6. Rolling
7. Without Desire
8. No More Fooling
9. Pulsar
10. Latest News

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### Tracklist FREEDOM OF SPEECH

1. Freedom Of Speech
2. E.F. 1
3. Brain Police
4. No Question
5. Relax
6. Gravity
7. Trapped Again
8. Experiments
9. Dream Machine
10. Dangerous

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