

[dunkelbunt] Bio (short):

Ulf Lindemann aka [dunkelbunt] was born in Hamburg in 1979 and came to Austria at the beginning of the millennium to study and make music. In 2002 in his Vienna studio he began to merge electronic music with Balkan, Gypsy and Swing sounds and along with his contemporaries like Waldeck, Parov Stelar and Shantel who helped popularize the new music genres, „Electro Swing“ and „Balkan Beats“.

On his albums, songs and remixes he captures the hum of the Global Village in our Cyber Age cooperating with over 150 musicians and incorporating 14 languages. Urban beats, grooving basslines, electronic and organic instrumentation and rhythms from the whole world. Mosaics of sound, soundbites and field recordings from his travels invite the listener to dance or to dream.

Since 2005 [dunkelbunt] tour schedule looks like a destination screen at an airport, Tel Aviv, Melbourne, Honolulu, L.A., Paris, New York, Cape Town, Moscow, Copenhagen, Vancouver, San Francisco, Istanbul or Barcelona are just some of the cities where he performs.

Together with every EP or LP released, [dunkelbunt] creates a special spice blend which is included with the CD or album and at concerts the air is filled with his special fragrances. With a cinnamon wand or with aromatic oil massaging the senses of his audience they are taken on a fantastic trip to the orient or through tropical forests and fields of flowers or to his second home in the Spanish Orange blossom valleys.



Alongside his diverse musical jobs (producer, pianist, DJ, composer, bandleader and radio producer) his other passion is cooking and spices. Over many years of traveling the globe and at home he has built an impressive knowledge of spices with which he has begun to create his own blends and recipes which he distributes over the web and through many small local stores and restaurants around the world. (In Vienna at Karmelitermarkt, Weltladen, Harvest, Bock auf Gewürze, Galerie Sur, Galerie Werkstatt Nu, Tüwi Hofladen, etc.)

Since 2011, [dunkelbunt] also tours Europe, Australia, Canada, U.S.A., Israel, etc. as a live act called “[dunkelbunt] & The Secret Swing Society”.

At the moment Ulf Lindemann is working on his Spice photo book, a CD with music for children and lives with his wife “Cinnamon Girl” and his 2 kids at his homes in Vienna and Hawaii.

Web: <http://www.dunkelbunt.tk>

CD/Vinyl/Digital: <http://bit.ly/15Mw0LH>

Sound: <http://www.soundcloud.com/dunkelbunt>

Video Live: <http://bit.ly/1bo3z5J>

DJ Set: <http://bit.ly/13zbNVl>

Picnic Mixtape: <http://bit.ly/19UQcOX>

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/monsieur.dunkelbunt>

Photos: <http://bit.ly/1fGfUsD>

Free Download: <http://bit.ly/OZ5fwm>

Discography:

2003: Wackelkontakt, 2004: Mandeltraeume, 2005: Balkan Hot Step, 2006: The Chocolate Butterfly, 2007: Morgenlandfahrt, Smile On Your Face, 2008: Cinnamon Girl, Sun Dub, 2009: Kebab Connection, Raindrops & Elephants 2010: Sun Dub Vol. 2 - A Spicy Blend, 2012: Schlawiener, Picnic with [dunkelbunt], 2013: Ich grill mit Dir die Abendsonne, Boomeræng

[dunkelbunt] Bio & Interview

(von May Rose, Los Angeles, Oktober 2013)

Ulf Lindemann aka [dunkelbunt] was born in Hamburg in 1979 and came to Austria at the beginning of the millennium to study and make music. In 2002 in his Vienna studio he began to merge electronic music with Balkan, Gypsy and Swing sounds and along with his contemporaries like Waldeck, Parov Stelar and Shantel who helped popularize the new music genres, Electro Swing and Balkan Beats.

At the beginning of the millennium Vienna was one of the hot cities in the electronic music scene and it's close proximity to the Balkans meant that the Balkan sounds had long been a part of the city's soundscape, Gypsy Jazz and Manouche Swing whether it be Harry Stojka, The Wiener Tschuschenkapelle, the regular concerts of Boban Markovic, Goran Bregovic, Fanfare Ciocarlia, Emir Kustorica, Kocani Orkestra, or the Belly Dance cassettes from his viennese cousins all had a magical allure that had a big effect on Lindemann and his piano playing.

"Fresh out of school after completing my Civil Service, I was at last able to follow my calling and strongest passion, which was to make music, on the piano, in the studio, as DJ, in a band, as a composer or as a singer in the University choir or just being in clubs and concerts listening to the music..music from morning until night and well into the evening. I have vivid memories of my neighbour standing in front of my door in a bathrobe with a tired expression on her face asking if I ever go to sleep! I even studied for a few semesters at the University of Music and Performing Arts before I decided to concentrate 100% on [dunkelbunt] and then I had my first international success."

In 2004 driven by curiosity, I packed my few things, got on my bike and rode out of Vienna following the Danube until I reached the Black Sea and Istanbul, where for the first time I was able to experience the culture and society that created this music which I had become so infatuated with.

I discovered my love of swing, boogie woogie and ragtime when I was a kid playing piano. My passion for recording and creating sound collages came from my mother who would make up "holiday tapes" with me and my brothers and sisters for family members who were about to travel. We would put these tapes together from live recordings of us making music, poems and general kitchy family stuff. Electronic music crept into my world when I was a young teenager through listening to Hip Hop, Jungle and Dub records in my room. Lindemann remembers when he got his first synthesizer, ruining all the speakers in the house and replacing the inside of his parents holy Bang & Olufsen speakers with some cheap replacements, the beginning of his career as an electronic technician. Later in Vienna his love of Balkan music spread to the Orient and then the whole world.

The introduction of broadband internet had a huge influence on me as all of a sudden through Peer to Peer programs I could search for new music and was constantly hearing new sounds within minutes. This just made me even more hungrier for unknown harmonies, rhythms, sounds and instrumentation. The result was listening to endless music of all styles and genres from the oldest shellac recordings to bootlegs of concerts that were not even hours old. Then there was also the odd "lucky find", the blind passenger being lead through the internet.

While labels and distributors are constantly losing their marketshare, Lindemann makes full use of the possibilities of the internet sending songs from his living room throughout the whole world. MP3's via email with one mouse click to the other end of the globe and just hours later being played by the Global DJ Crew in clubs from Rio De Janiero to Tokyo.

„I used to get my work cut into Dubplates so I could play them when I Djed, one song per side and every time you played them the sound became flatter, with the press of a button that all became history, the digital age had arrived. Very quickly we realized how far reaching this simple process was, as if our music was being magically transported around the globe. It was an incredibly exciting and liberating feeling to be on the cutting edge of the time, being able to create names for new musical styles that previously hadn't existed.“



Through Soulseek (a peer to peer program) he recommends his new fresh sounds via Chat to other users and they pass it on and it snowballs. It doesn't take long to spread the Electro-Swing and Balkan hype around the world and including Electro Swing, Balkan Electronics, Oriental Dub, Urban Klezmer in the metadata of his MP3's pays off, as these are the genres that are gaining in popularity. Many promoters and bookers use these methods to search for new music and acts and that's how they find [dunkelbunt]. *"I send my beats around the world on holiday and I follow them . My music is my travel and adventure agency "*

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"I am forever grateful to discover the world on the wings of my music. I'm able to see and experience different people and cultures, and rid myself of the fear of what is foreign and open myself to the world. I gather information on a first hand basis and not through the selective filters of mass media. It is always an enriching experience to totally immerse yourself in a culture. To engage with new people, mentalities, literature, nature, plantlife, animal life, customs, languages, smells, food and to experience the light and dark of new places. Asking questions, again and again or just observing. I am constantly having to reshape and rethink my views on the world. This stops me from becoming set in my ways, to keep open minded and remember not to be judgemental but to try to understand things for what they are, hopefully to learn to love the person next to me and have compassion. I really have such an amazing job and have had been lucky to discover my calling and to live this dream."

On tour he gets annoyed as his CD's are running out because he gives them away, but only if he gets a guarantee that they will be copied at least ten times and handed around. *"I don't don't harvest more than I can eat. The main thing is that the music is out there and it gets to the people and makes them happy and puts a smile on their faces in difficult times. Apart from that it is nice to see how the music has spread throughout the years. I sometimes meet fans at concerts that have travelled a thousand kilometers to see me, that never ceases to amaze me."*

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