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**PRESS
RELEASE**
June 3, 2020

Disc Release (CD) Perspectives for the 22nd Century

Musée d'ethnographie de Genève
www.meg-geneve.ch

**PERSPECTIVES
FOR THE 22nd CENTURY**

**CD release:
June 19, 2020**

Composition: Jean-Jacques Birgé (2020)

Musicians: Jean-Jacques Birgé (keyboards, field recordings, wind instruments, percussions, etc.), Jean-François Vrod (violin), Antonin-Tri Hoang (bass clarinet, alto sax), Nicolas Chedmail (French horn), Sylvain Lemêtre (percussion), Elsa Birgé (singing) and 18 people speaking in their mother tongue.

Recorded and mixed in 2020 by Jean-Jacques Birgé at Studio GRRR (Bagnolet, France)

Title: Perspectives for the 22nd Century

Artist: Jean-Jacques Birgé

Label: MEG-AIMP / Musée d'ethnographie de Genève

Genre: Contemporary and experimental music, sound archives

Release Date: June 19th 2020

MEG-AIMP118 (CD) – 4251804120623

Inside out Digipack, preface and notes fr/eng

Notes and photographs by Jean-Jacques Birgé and Madeleine Leclair. Booklet of 44 pages

Stream : <https://soundcloud.com/user-516340806/sets/perspectives-du-xxiie-siecle-jean-jacques-birge/s-v09OVK76q5X>



Tracklisting

- 01 Éternelle
- 02 L'Indésir
- 03 MEG 2152
- 04 Renaissance
- 05 Les Jambes
- 06 Hibakusha
- 07 Aksak tripalium
- 08 Tirage au sort
- 09 Larmes de crocodile
- 10 Variationstrieb
- 11 Gwerz de l'âme juste
- 12 Au loup
- 13 Les champs les plus beaux
- 14 De vallées en vallées
- 15 Berceuse ionique
- 16 Ensemble ratatam

Total duration: 58'25

MEDIA CONTACT

Laurence Berlamont-Equey | laurence.berlamont-equey@ville-ge.ch | T +41 22 418 45 73 | M +41 79 661 83 66

CURATOR OF THE ETHNOMUSICOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Madeleine Leclair | madeleine.leclair@ville-ge.ch | T +41 22 418 45 56

Info

Commissioned by the Ethnographic Museum of Geneva (MEG), Jean-Jacques Birgé composed a work based on the MEG's International Archives of Folk Music (IAFM). *Perspectives for the 22nd Century* includes 31 pieces recorded between 1930 and 1952 and compiled by Constantin Brăiloiu (1893-1958), founder of the IAFM and an authoritative reference in the field of traditional music.

Perspectives for the 22nd Century is written on the basis of an anticipation scenario where the survivors of the disaster of 2152 live on the ruins of the MEG and decide to rebuild themselves from the archives discovered on site. The composition mixes acoustic instruments, some of which belong to the MEG collections, virtual instruments, ambiances and sound archives.

A disturbing echo of current events, *Perspectives for the 22nd Century* is a sound fiction following the journey of humans who must reinvent themselves. In these times of questioning about the future of the planet and of humanity, Jean-Jacques Birgé wanted to dedicate this work to C. F. Ramuz and Vercors.

This CD is the fifth title to appear in the series of recordings published by the MEG and devoted to contemporary creations composed on the basis of its sound archives.

Points of interests

- Contemporary work composed by Jean-Jacques Birgé, French independent artist, music composer, film director, multimedia author, writer and sound designer.
- Work incorporating 31 archive pieces recorded between 1930 and 1952 in Europe, Asia and Africa, from the MEG's International Archives of Folk Music (IAFM).
- Work incorporating the sound of musical instruments (small cymbals and bowl-bells) from the MEG collections, played especially for this project.
- A sound fiction recounting a succession of episodes weathered by the survivors of a forthcoming disaster in 2152, who miraculously discover the sound archives kept at the MEG.
- Suite of musical pieces evoking the radiophonic art and inspired by the tradition of symphonic poems.
- The fifth CD to appear in the series "Contemporary Creations" published by the MEG (*MEG-CDG* by Sinner CD, *Sound Chamber* by Julien Perez, *The Poetics of Time-Space* by Jeremy Young, *The Fairy Tale Factory* by Gabriel Scotti).

Edition: Musée d'ethnographie de Genève

Editor: Madeleine Leclair

MEG-AIMP118

Distributors (worldwide): Word and Sound

Order: https://www.ville-ge.ch/meg/publications_cd.php



above
«Ciel!»
(photo J.-J. Birgé)

below
Jean-Jacques Birgé
(photo M. Leclair, 2020)

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

MEG

Musée d'ethnographie de Genève
Bd Carl-Vogt 65
1205 Geneva
T +41 22 418 45 50
E meg@ville-ge.ch
www.meg-geneve.ch

Open from Tuesday to Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed on Mondays, 25 December and 1 January
Public transport access by bus 1, 2, 19 and 35 or tram 12, 15, 17 and 18

Further information:

To receive the newsletter,
register on www.meg-geneve.ch

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Winner of the 2017 European Museum of the Year Award

The MEG (Musée d'ethnographie de Genève) is a public institution, founded in 1901, whose first director was the Genevan anthropologist Eugène Pittard (1867-1962). The Museum's mission is to conserve objects illustrating the culture of peoples throughout the history of the world. It houses a collection of more than 70,000 objects and its library contains more than 50,000 documents on the cultures of the world. The Museum possesses a unique collection of musical recordings, the Archives internationales de musique populaire (AIMP), containing more than 16,000 hours of music including the collection gathered by Constantin Brăiloiu between 1944 and 1958. With more than 3,000 hours of historic recordings, this constitutes the core of the collection. Admission to the permanent collection, which presents more than a thousand objects from the five continents, is free. Along with its permanent collection and temporary collections, the MEG offers a programme of cultural and scientific mediation, concerts, film and lecture cycles as well as shows. Since October 2014, the MEG's treasures have been shown to advantage in a new building designed by the Zurich firm Graber Pulver Architekten AG on the site it has occupied since 1941.