



## Alexander Schubert *plays* SINEBAG

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Track list:

- 1) Semaphores
- 2) A few Plateaus
- 3) Preliminary
- 4) Vowels
- 5) All My Models
- 6) Slept
- 7) Wake-up, Fly Ray

**Sinebag** is the more pop orientated side project of Alexander Schubert. At this point he focuses mostly on composing contemporary multimedia works for ensemble, electronics and video. Schubert has also played frequently in different improvised contexts - ranging from free jazz to conceptual improv. While these poles and the harmonic sinebag project used to be really different fields of work, they started to merge together more and more - now being rather different aspects of a similar approach on music. As working on this album took approximately three years, the pop elements were heavily influenced by the other fields of composition and improvisation, that Alexander Schubert was focusing on mostly in this period of time. This explains why the album is released as “Alexander Schubert plays Sinebag” – as it’s neither like his composed music nor like the old Sinebag releases.

That being said, there are still concepts continued from the old albums: Most obvious are the still present folk guitar elements and the use of nature field-recordings and different forms of non-tonal noises. While the new works explore ideas in greater length and complexity the underlining aesthetic is still comparable. On a micro-level though, fundamental differences occur: the speed and density and aggressiveness, which evolve from calm origins, is the most remarkable change in the current pieces. On the preceding albums “Près de la Lisière” and “Milchwolken in Teein” the collages had a more gentle feeling to them, which on the current CD has been given up for a fragmented approach rich in contrast.

The three major pieces on this album are based on recordings of live-electronic improvisations with several instruments. These multi-track recordings were then heavily edited and rearranged in a studio setup and superimposed with different other sketches, written in a more songwriting kind of style. At this point, previously (and independently) recorded material, played by several musicians was brought in the project and interweaved in the work. The use of simple midi-based instruments makes the distinction of the origin of sounds even more complicated. The result is a pretty artificial hybrid based on live recordings, sample material and synthesized sounds. Recognizable melodic instruments are mostly Midi, the flickering acoustic loops are based on source material by Nora-Louise Müller (clarinet), Sven Kacirek (drums), Jonathan Shapiro (percussion), Oliver Schwerdt (piano), Oliver Gutzeit (saxophone), Brian O'Reilly (processed double bass) and Matthias Koole (electric guitar). The field recordings were recorded in Dalmatia.

Further information can be found at [sinebag.de](http://sinebag.de) and [alexanderschubert.net](http://alexanderschubert.net).

Sinebag is played live mostly with percussion, clarinet and electronics – solo sets happen occasionally too.



**Alexander Schubert** was born in 1979 in Bremen and studied computer science and biology in Leipzig focusing on neuro-informatics and cognitive science. During his studies he has worked as a musician and composer in a variety of different environments. In addition to this, Schubert worked for one year at the ZKM (Centre for Art and Media) in Karlsruhe at the Institute for Music and Acoustics. In 2010 he got a masters degree in multimedia composition at the Hamburg Academy for Music and Drama.

Schubert's research interest explores cross-genre interfaces between acoustic and electronic music. Musical pieces for audio tapes and the formal notation of compositions for live electronics belong just as much to his work as the design of software-setups and manipulation / design of instruments for an intuitive handling in an improvised context (see "Weapon of Choice"). A permanent focus of his work is the combination of notated and improvised music – both in aesthetics and structure. His technical training is the basis of a differentiated utilization and individual design of sound synthesis and controllers (e.g. in the installation „A Set of Dots“).

Since 2009 he focuses on sensor-based gestural composition in both his composing and research activities (as a PhD student). In this field he is contributing to international conferences and researches with various institutes worldwide. The combination of aesthetic, technical and scientific aspects of this interdisciplinary approach have encountered a very positive reception.

Apart from working as a composer and solo musician Schubert is also playing in the ensembles „Trnn“ and „Ember“. Schubert has contributed to a variety of different projects as a musician, composer and programmer (e.g. for the Wiener Festwochen and Staatsoper Berlin). Alexander Schubert curates the music festival contemporary electronic music in Leipzig and runs the publishing company „Ahornfelder-Verlag“ for experimental audio and book releases. He's an organizing member of the VAMH - a collective maintaining a broad network for contemporary music and organizing an annual two-week long festival. He's been a jury member for conferences and competitions (e.g. SSSP Conference, JTTP competition) and held composition workshops (e.g. conservatory Mexico City).

In 2009 he was awarded with a Bourges residency prize and was a prizewinner in the international competition JTTP and received scholarships in Montreal from the ICMC and from NIME in Sydney. In 2010 he was a residency guest at the University of Birmingham and stipendiary at the Darmstädter Ferienkurse. In 2008 and 2010 he was a guest artist at the ZKM in Karlsruhe.

His works have been played at: IRCAM Paris, NIME Sydney, Akousma Montreal, ICMC, ZKM Karlsruhe, SMC Porto, SSSP Leicester, Klangwerkstage Hamburg, Darmstädter Ferienkurse, Komponistenforum Mittersill, Maribor Slovenia, Hilltown Festival Ireland, New York, Boston, Ahornfelder Leipzig, Bipolar Festival Karlsruhe / München / Budapest, Blurred Edges Hamburg, Disparate Bodies Belfast, Katarakt Hamburg, Noisefloor England, Making New Waves Budapest, TU Berlin, Soundcrawl Nashville, Kunsthalle Hamburg, Gijón (Laboral) Spain, EMM Kansas, ARD Hörspieltage, Steinhardt School New York, Essl Museum Wien, Deutschlandfunk Köln, Staatsoper Berlin, MDR, Wiener Festwochen.