

SINEBAG / ALEXANDER SCHUBERT



sinebag:

alexander schubert
karl-liebknecht-str. 90
04275 leipzig

0341-3019952

alex@sinebag.de
www.sinebag.de

Sinebag is the alias of Alexander Schubert. Under this pseudonym he is working as an electro-acoustic musician, combining guitars and other instruments with digital processing and recorded sounds.

Alexander Schubert was born in Bremen in 1979 and began to play guitars and the piano at the age of 13. Since this time he has been writing musical material which was realised with digital recording. At the age of 20 he began to study computer science and biology in Luebeck. A little while later he moved to Leipzig, where he dedicated most of his time to his musical work. In 2003 Sinebag's first LP "Milchwolken in Teein" was released on the Pulsmusik label in Berlin. This record already outlines the different field of interest which are later to be explored in detail. It's a heterogen mixture of experimental and melodic passages, pure electronic parts, guitars and fieldrecordings. From this point on Schubert regularly played concerts in Germany and Europe.

Sinebag focusses on the combination of music and sound which can be mostly characterized by a warm, analog ambience. The songs have a collage-like character, aiming at constructing fields rather than common song structures. Acoustic instruments (guitars, piano, voices, sounds) are used as well as synthetic elements which leads to a mixture of live recorded and compositionally created passages. A central idea is to integrate fieldrecordings – longer recordings as ambient backings or concrete sounds like those when cooking in a kitchen.

The current album „Près de la Lisière“ (Ahornfelder, 2005) features mostly fieldrecordings and quiet guitar compositions. They are accompanied by electric elements, mostly describable as clicks and cuts, and by acoustic elements like organs and xylophones. At the moment Sinebag is in the process of finishing a new album with louder and more concrete elements presumably ready for release in summer 2007.

Apart from his solo project Schubert a member of various projects. Together with pianist Oliver Schwerdt and guitarist Friedrich Kettlitz he founded the noise band Trnn, investigating static fields of digital noise. The trio Schubert-Kettlitz-Schwerdt is the acoustic counterpart creating minimal fields with found objects only. The quartet Ember with Schwerdt, saxophone player Urs Leimgruber and drummer Christian Lillinger combines elements of Free Jazz with contemporary classical music leading to dense and diversified improvisations. Other duo or trio formations have been field-tested in several concerts.

In a live situation Alexander Schubert pursues the goal of playing as many components live as possible – in contrast to relying on backing-tracks. This is achieved in thoughtfully structured live sets and the use of selfbuilt instruments. Each concert has a unique compositional setup and set of instruments and is most of the times supported by other guest musicians (electronics, piano, guitars, bass). In concerts the idea of combining noisy with harmonic elements is a central part as well as the contrasts between minimalistic and complex passages. All in all, a concert establishes a most interesting soundscape ranging from fieldrecordings, electronic noises, to guitar compositions and differs in a positive way from the typical laptop artist, as the sound synthesis is visible and understandable to the viewer.

In 2005 Schubert founded the Ahornfelder label which was initially focussed on minimalistic electro-acoustic music. In May 2005 Sinebag's album "Près de la Lisière" was released and followed by the re-release of the "Milchwolken in Teein" LP and the 7" by Trikkband. The collages on the "Lisière" record are silent, melodic mixtures of acoustic instrumentals and

fieldrecordings. The experimental character of this release doesn't lie in the tonality but in the systematic reduction.

With this critically acclaimed release a basis for the label had been established making it interesting for other musicians too. The cooperation with artists like Yuichiro Fujimoto, FS Blumm, Wechsel Garland and Kyle Field step by step increased the size of the label leading to a wider range of distribution (Hausmusik, Darla, Plop).

Schubert studied Computer Science, Biology and Cognitive Science in Leipzig and finished his study with a thesis on the speech cognition at the Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Science ([MPI](#)).

Besides running the label and playing concerts Alexander Schubert works for the ZKM | Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie ([ZKM](#)). At the institute for music and acoustics he is organizing events, productions and publications in the electro-acoustic field.

Besides his musical work Schubert is an active photographer with an interested in experimental Polaroids, digitally edited images and classical photography of borders between nature and architecture. The photos have been shown in several exhibitions and published in magazines. A book with photographs is scheduled for late 2007 on Ahornfelder.

He is making the artwork and design for all the Ahornfelder releases too. Depending on the release, in a more or less close cooperation with the artist. The graphical products range from records, posters and flyers to books.

Furthermore Schubert has done the mastering for several recordings.

Schubert has organized various events both focussing on contemporary music and more popular influences. Probably the most well know is the Ahornfelder Festival taking place each year in the NaTo in Leipzig.

A selection of venues Sinebag has played:

NBI (Berlin)

Kulturbunker (Köln)

Moritzbastei (Leipzig)

Pact (Essen)

Blaue Fabrik (Dresden)

Etage+ (Hamburg)

Hörbar (Hamburg)

Buro Friedrich (Berlin)

Boskovice (Chez Republic)

Headphone Festival (Leipzig)

Ilse Erika (Leipzig)

L'abore Festival (Thuringen)

Stadthaus (Halle)

Nato (Leipzig)

Sinebag has played together with :

Greg Davis, Sébastien Roux, Semuin, Paul Rutherford, Oliver Schwerdt, Christian Lillinger, Urs Leimgruber, Boris Aljinovic, Markus Sepperer, Hartmut Dorschner, Johannes Funk, Konrad Grüneberg, Hermann Grüneberg, Friedrich Kettlitz, Heike Hennig, Matthias Mainz, Jana Rath, Jens Schneider, Steffanie Sembdner, Sebastian Waack, Sebastian Weber, Dronaement, Patrick Franke.