

The Cambridge Companion to Krautrock

This Companion is the first academic introduction to the 1960s/70s 'Krautrock' movement of German experimental music that has long attracted the attention of the music press and fans in Britain and abroad. It offers a structured approach to this exceptionally heterogeneous and decentralised movement, combining overviews with detailed analysis and close readings. The volume first analyses the cultural, historical, and economic contexts of Krautrock's emergence. It then features expert chapters discussing all the key bands of the era including Can, Kraftwerk, Tangerine Dream, Neu!, Faust, Ash Ra Tempel, Cluster, and Amon Düül II. The volume concludes with essays that trace the varied, wide-ranging legacy of Krautrock from a variety of perspectives, exploring in particular the impact of German experimental music in the Anglosphere, including British post-punk and Detroit Techno. A final chapter examining the current bands that continue the Krautrock sound closes this comprehensive overview of the Krautrock phenomenon.

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This volume is dedicated to my colleagues at the German section at Aston University, which was closed shortly after Brexit: Claudia Gremler, Elisabeth Wielander and Stefan Manz. You always had my back, tolerated my incompetence in administrative matters for two decades and filled in for me when I was in Berlin rather than Birmingham. Thank you.

Contents

List of Illustrations [page xiii]
List of Contributors [xiv]
Acknowledgements [xix]
Note on Translation [xx]

Introduction

UWE SCHÜTTE [1]

PART I CONTEXT [13]

- 1 Krautrock: Definitions, Concepts, Contexts
ULRICH ADELTE [15]
- 2 Krautrock and the Radical Politics of 1968
DETLEF SIEGFRIED [28]
- 3 Krautrock in the British and American Music Press
ALEXANDER SIMMETH [44]
- 4 Infrastructure of the German Music Business
JAN-PETER HERBST [59]
- 5 The Sound of Krautrock
HEATHER MOORE [74]

PART II MUSIC [91]

- 6 Kraftwerk
UWE SCHÜTTE [93]
- 7 Can
PATRICK GLEN [112]
- 8 Tangerine Dream
SEAN NYE AND MICHAEL KRİKORIAN [126]
- 9 Neu!
DAVID STUBBS [143]

- 10 Faust
ALEXANDER HENKLE [158]
- 11 Cluster/Harmonia
DAVID PATTIE [173]
- 12 Popol Vuh
SASCHA SEILER [187]
- 13 Ash Ra Tempel, Manuel Göttsching, and Klaus Schulze
PERTTI GRÖNHOLM [201]
- 14 Amon Düül II
RYAN ISEPPİ [218]
- 15 The Flip Side of Krautrock
JENS BALZER [233]
- PART III LEGACY [247]
- 16 Krautrock and German Punk
JEFF HAYTON [249]
- 17 Krautrock and British Post-Punk
ALEXANDER CARPENTER [263]
- 18 Krautrock and German Free Jazz, Kraut Fusion, and Detroit
Techno
MARCUS BARNES [278]
- 19 Krautrock Today
ALEX HARDEN [293]
- Index* [307]

Illustrations

- 6.1 Kraftwerk dolls (© Ilse Ruppert) [page 96]
- 6.2 Kraftwerk live, 1981 (© Wolfgang Wigger) [106]
- 7.1 Irmin Schmidt, Holger Czukay, Damo Suzuki, Jaki Liebezeit, and Michael Karoli of Can, early 1970s (Courtesy of Spoon Recs) [119]
- 7.2 Can live in Hamburg, 1972 (© Heinrich Klaffs) [124]
- 8.1 Tangerine Dream at Coventry Cathedral, 1975 (© Michael Putland/Getty Images) [134]
- 9.1 Klaus Dinger and Michael Rother of Neu! (© Anton Corbijn) [147]
- 10.1 Faust in Wümme, 1971 (© Jürgen D. Ensthaler) [164]
- 11.1 Hans-Joachim Roedelius and Dieter Möbius of Cluster, 1970 (© Cluster Archive/Bureau B) [178]
- 13.1 Hartmut Enke, Manuel Göttsching, and Klaus Schulze of Ash Ra Tempel, 1971 (© MG.ART Archive) [203]
- 13.2 Manuel Göttsching, 1973 (© MG.ART, Photo: Marcel Fugère) [210]
- 14.1 Cover of *Krautrocksampler* by Julian Cope (© Julian Cope) [219]
- 15.1 Inga Rumpf (© Jacques Schumacher) [235]
- 15.2 Achim Reichel (with A.R. & Machines), Hamburg, 1971 (© Heinrich Klaffs) [243]

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I am delighted, though, that at least this volume could be completed. Leaving academia and England for good after thirty years, I like to think of this *Companion to Krautrock* as my farewell gift. Best of British to you all!

Note on Translation

All quotations from German sources were translated by the respective contributors.