



Hotel
PALINDRONE

Winner

of the Austrian

World Music Audience Award 2005

“Pretty much irresistible” (Sing Out!/USA)

“A joyful surprise” (TradMagazine/F)

“One of Austria’s most innovative folk groups” (www.breizh.de)

“An excellent band of multi-instrumentalists” (www.globalvillageidiot.com)

„Austria’s only drone band of stature” (concerto/A)

- p. 2 Music**
- p. 3 Staff**
- p. 4 The media about Hotel Palindrone**
- p. 6 Bandhistory – Stage appearance – Discography**
- p. 7 Contact**

The music of Hotel Palindrone

Bagpipes from all over Europe, Irish-Italian mandola, Swedish nyckelhart, jew's-harp, e-bass, saxophone ... Nearly twenty instruments and four musicians. - It works?

It does, and it does perfectly well! In an intelligent and sophisticated way, profound knowledge of European folk-traditions is blended with influences from jazz, classics and minimal music. The musicians play passionately by ear, and their tunes are full of groove and swing. Evidently, HOTEL PALINDRONE have the same fun on stage as the audience has.

Style - HOTEL PALINDRONE play music deeply rooted in European traditions. At the same time - in a lively, open and playful way - it is full of contemporary elements. Timeless tunes which oscillate effortlessly between nostalgic - sometimes archaic - impressions and a modern attitude towards life.

Alpine - HOTEL PALINDRONE emphasize their Austrian musical roots. This does not mean they want to be traditionalists strictly preserving a

regional heritage: The musicians consider themselves communicators who highlight and allude to the rich variety of European music.

Hotel Palindrone refer to stylistic elements that go back to the early 19th century, long before alpine drone-music traditions were completely superseded by urban dance music à la Johann Strauß.

Dance band - HP play powerfully and sensitively for dancers, which they proved on their tours, and at prestigious festivals such as Rudolstadt and Leipzig (Germany).

Hotel Palindrone play central French and Breton repertoire as well as tunes from the eastern Alps, and - not to forget - their own compositions.

Compositions - Their creative dealing with tradition is reflected in Hotel Palindrone's compositions. They wrote more than 100 tunes. Most of them by Stefan "Stoney" Steiner, some by Albin Paulus.



Hotel Palindrone's Staff

Albin Paulus - Clarinet, bagpipes, jew's harp, shawms, flutes, vocals, yodel.



Born in Germany, but Austrian roots. He studied the classical clarinet and saxophone. Very soon, however, he dedicated himself to the Jew's harp and the bagpipe. Beyond the field of European world music, Albin excels as a classical Jew's harp virtuoso and a specialist for ancient music as well. In the years 1997 and 2005 he came second at the prestigious Saint Chartier Bagpipe Competition in France.



John Morrissey - Mandola, chitarra battente, mandoloncello, vocals.

Born in the USA, but he grew up in Austria. As a self-educated musician he soon entered the universe of Italian string instruments such as mandola, chitarra battente, and mandoloncello. In the early 80ies pioneering work on Austrian musical traditions, cooperating with experienced village musicians.

Peter „Nag“ Natterer -



Bass, saxophones, piano, electrified pump organ.

Born in Lower Austria. After studying the classical piano he turned to the saxophone and to jazz in 1988. He perfected his skills at Berklee College (Boston/ USA) in 2002. Opener to Joe Zawinul in 2005. Peter has also excelled as a bassist and keyboarder in the fields of funk, rock and hardcore.

Stephan „Stoney“ Steiner -



Violin, viola, hurdy-gurdy, diatonic accordion, nyckelharpa, vocals.

Born in Vienna. As a child, he studied the classical violin. Later "Stoney" dedicated himself - autodidactically - to the hurdy-gurdy, the diatonic accordion, and the nyckelharpa. He is a skilful dance musician, folk composer and a pivot of the Viennese folk scene. Intensive cooperation with the pioneer of electro-acoustic music, Hans Joachim Roedelius.

The media about Hotel Palindrone

... referring to the recent CD Samo Riba

"All multi-instrumentalists, they're equally adept at Swedish and Balkan music ... connecting them together with traditional Alpine music and their own compositions. ... It's a great time and the musicians are obviously enjoying themselves: Add that to their great abilities, and you have a record that's pretty much irresistible." (CN – sing Out!/ USA, 2004)

"This Austrian band experiments broadly with all manner of European folk music, ... but ultimately creates their own unique sound This live recording from a 2003 performance is ample proof that Austria is finally joining the 'newly composed folk' movement of Europe with style." (cdRoots/ USA, 2004)

"Live recording of a punchy Austrian quartet playing a wide variety of European dance music with a bit of singing. The 16 instruments they play well, all help to sustain the interest." Appraisal: Thumbs up" (fRoots/ GB, 2004)

"An excellent band of multi-instrumentalists, who like to put a slight twist on tradition, mixing it up with their own rooted compositions. Yes, it's music to dance to – you'd be hard-pressed to stay still, in fact. Well worth tracking down." (globalvillageidiot/ USA, 2004)

"Hotel Palindrone, Austria's only drone band of stature, has released their long-awaited live album. ... There are extremely varied sets, often with a touch of jazz. ... Interesting arrangements and lyrical elegance: Hotel Palindrone prove that the unison of bagpipes, hurdy-gurdies and other instruments does not necessarily result in a rough and archaic sound." (Richard Schuberth – Concerto Magazin/ A, 2004)

"Une heureuse surprise. Un groupe folk autrichien largement influencé par le revivalisme français des années 70 mais avec tout ce qu'il faut d'innovation musicale pour entrer dans le troisième millénaire. ... Hotel Palindrone existe depuis 1995 et s'appuie sur le répertoire européen avec une démarche totalement acoustique. Certains ont pu les voir à la Fête de la Vielle à Anost en 2000. Espérons que autres organisateurs auront la bonne idée de les faire venir par chez nous." (Thierry Laplaud – Trad Magazine/ F, 2004)

"... The equally enticing booklet ... shows that the way in which they chose the various tunes is quite a story on its own. ... vibrant record. ... This unexpected surprise from Austria is a welcome inclusion in the ranks of world music." (Nondas Kitsos – Roots World Recording Review/ USA, 2004)

"All sets show wit and a feeling for the fine details, but this does not mean that form is more important than substance. Even the weirdest chords support the tunes, the melodies groove just by themselves. Only

musicians who have been working together for years can play this way.” (Andi Neumeister - Tradivarium Folk/World Newsletter/ A, 2004).

“... one of Austria’s most innovative folk groups. ... Musicians who developed their own outstanding style: Pan-European Folk Music.” (A. Goriup – breizh/ Germany, 2005)

“... they prescribe a living cell therapy to a stale folk movement which has come into age. Well-balanced their sound: Blending jazz, klezmer and ethno-music. (Hannes Doblhofer - Brennstoff/ A, 2006)

... by stage appearances ...

„The band Hotel Palindrone proved a highlight indeed. The variety of their programme was hard to top: It includes Galician reels, “Schleunige” from the Salzkammergut, yodelling, Jew’s harp solos with spherical overtones, Croatian children songs, and Breton dances.” (Michael Stadler - Salzburger Nachrichten/ A, 2005, Folkfestival Hallein)

“The winners: The marvellous Hotel Palindrone. ... A group that developed its unique style in the last ten years. A mixture of folk, dance music and improvisation. What a groovy band!” (Manfred Horak - Kulturwoche/ A, 2005 - Final of the Austrian-World-Music-Award2005)

“Hotel Palindrone put life into the contest by presenting their European folk crossover. Original instruments from all over the continent were played with joy and wit: A

completely new sound blowing away all the dust which has covered traditional music for years. ... It’s just a matter of time that the band will make their great breakthrough. The audience was on their side. And if I had enough influence I would give them a prize for innovating world music.” (Christine Reiterer - der wiener salon/ A, 2005 - Final of the Austrian World Music Award 2005)

“After three hours the audience still demanded encores: An evidence of sparkling vibrations among the listeners. ... Four multitalents presented vivacious traditional European music, taken from a wide spectrum – geographically and chronically. Though rooted in folk, this music is characterized by a smooth transition to jazz and avant-garde reminiscences. ... At the beginning this combination of modern and old sounds seemed unusual, but soon the audience was absorbed in this lively music by the intensive playing of all four musicians. An important aspect was their enormous variety of instruments.” (Ute Extra - Nordwest Zeitung /Germany, 2004)

... and ...

“Oimschroa’ is a Schleuniger Dance from the Salzkammergut, found in the Schmalnauer Manuscript of the year 1819. But interpreted the Hotel Palindrone way: With the understanding and feeling of the year 2005. (Mirjam Jessa/Radio Ö1/ORF-Austrian Broadcasting Company)

Bandhistory

For more than a decade, the musicians of Hotel Palindrone have been a driving force in the Austrian folk/roots-music scene.

1995 - Hotel Palindrone founded

Stage appearance by cultural organizations and to festivals in Austria; first gigs abroad – in Northern Italy. Exchange of ideas and concepts at festivals like St. Chartier (F) and in the strongly evolving Vienna session scene. Influences of jazz, minimal music and a pinch of klezmer.

1999 - first CD „Elegance“.

Discovering new styles and regions: Scandinavian and Balkan tunes, and particular Alpine folk music from manuscripts of the 18th and 19th centuries. The bands members' compositions gain more importance as well as playing for dancers.

More gigs abroad: Fete de la Vielle Anost (F/2000), Tanz- und Folkfest Rudolstadt (D/2001), Tanzhausfest Leipzig (D/2002).

2003 - release of „Samo Riba“ (live recorded)

2004 - Among many concerts appearance at the prestigious Vienna Konzerthaus and Germany tour.

2005 – A year of various highlights! Austrian World-Music-Audience-Award. Appearance at Linz Brucknerhaus and Folkfestival Hallein. A 10-Year-Anniversary-Concert as the kick-off to the monthly BALLSAAL PALINDRONE – a bal folk with dancing classes and outstanding

guest musicians. Tours through Germany and Belgium.

2006 – Hotel Palindrone will record their new studio album. Various concerts in cooperation with Jeunesse, invitations to workshops and concerts at Tanzhaus Erlangen (D), Trad.it!-Festival (NL) and Rainforest-World-Music-Festival in Sarawak/Borneo (Malaysia).

Stage appearance

Tanz- & Folkfest Rudolstadt (D), Tanzhaus*Folk Leipzig (D), Fête de la Vielle d'Anost (F), Trad.it!-Festival (NL), Théâtre Molière (Brüssel/B), Heksenketel (Antwerpen/B), Festival Blu Sconfini Gorizia (I), L'Unità in Friuli Tour (I) etc.

Wiener Konzerthaus, Bruckner Haus, Folkfestival Hallein, Schloss Goldegg – Jeunesse, Donauinsselfest Wien, Bordunmusikfestival Kremsmünster, Sunnsait'n Freistadt, Folkfestival Gutenbrunn, Wiener Flüchtlingsball, Ost Klub Vienna, etc.

Discography

„Elegance“ (1999)

Extraplatte EX 350 099-2

„Samo Riba“ (live 2003)

By Extraplatte EX 650 003-2

More CD's with participation of HP-membbers:

They took part in at least 30 CD-productions – beside folk/worldmusic, also jazz, ancient music/classical, ambient music etc.

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