

MONHEIM PAPERS II

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FOREWORD

From the very beginning, we, my fellow curators and the entire festival team, had the vision that the Monheim Triennale should be more than just another music festival. It should be a space where long-term artistic development can flourish, where new ideas emerge and where we not only experience the artists on stage, but work closely with them in the deeper layers of their practice, thinking and personal development.

Each festival edition brings together a temporary but close-knit artistic community of 16 outstanding personalities, characterized only by curiosity, commitment and the urge to challenge musical conventions.

With this in mind, we present the Monheim Papers II – a publication that accompanies the second Triennial with detailed articles which offers a deep insight into the lives and thoughts of our artists.

Edited by Editor-in-Chief Thomas Venker and featuring contributions from some of the best international music journalists, this publication is enriched by the photographic work of Niclas Weber and graphically staged by our Art Director Christian Schäfer.

As with the first issue, these “papers” were initially published on our website in German and English. Now we are proud to publish the English texts in print for the first time in collaboration with Wolke Verlag – a creative joint project that we are very excited about. This partnership ensures that the Monheim Papers will be available in stores around the world.

The Monheim Papers are part documentation, part homage. They are also a reminder that music is never just sound, but is always shaped by the personal, social and political contexts of those who create it, those who write about it and those who listen to it.

I would like to thank all the writers and photographers who have contributed to this publication, as well as the artists who have opened their doors and shared their stories with us. I hope that these pages give a lasting impression of the artistic universe that we will continue to explore together.

Reiner Michalke
Artistic Director

OREN AMBARCHI

Words by
THOMAS VENKER
Photography by
NICLAS WEBER

“I’m definitely
interested in
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The musical explorations of Berlin-based composer and multi-instrumentalist Oren Ambarchi take place mostly on the guitar. He is an avid collaborator and improviser who has worked with many of the leading personalities in today’s music scene (including Keiji Haino, Merzbow, Stephen O’Malley, Damo Suzuki and Otomo Yoshihide). He has also run the Black Truffle label since 2009, which has already produced over 100 highly acclaimed releases.

