



CLUSTER

Cluster 71

Label
BUREAU B

Format
LP

Catalog Number
BB 058LP

EAN
4047179488617



Store Price
\$17.79

Release Date
01/22/16

Territory
NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre
FILE UNDER - C - ELECTRONIC



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DESCRIPTION

2016 re-release of Bureau B's 2010 reissue. 140-gram LP. **Cluster**'s self-titled debut was originally released by Philips in 1971; this edition is the first reissue to restore the track running order of the original Philips release. Includes liner notes by electronic avant-garde pioneer **Asmus Tietchens**. In 1998, *The Wire* listed Cluster's self-titled debut as one of "100 Records That Set The World On Fire (When No One Was Listening)." Very few albums from Germany can lay claim to this honor. *Cluster* is a monster; it contains a mere three untitled tracks and was quite an ordeal for untrained ears when it was released. Yet the album pointed the way forward like no other electronic opus. Cluster's previous incarnation was a trio called **Kluster**. A change in direction and musical differences moved **Dieter Moebius** and **Hans-Joachim Roedelius** to split from the group's third member, **Conrad Schnitzler**, in 1970. The following year, in addition to playing live, they recorded their first album in publisher **Ralf Arnie**'s Star Musik Studio in Hamburg. Here they first met **Conny Plank**, who would himself become a legend. They remained close friends until Plank's death in 1987. Early Cluster music was new. New in the sense that it did not continue any tradition, instead laying the foundations for a future tradition. The duo's utter renunciation of conventional harmony and rhythm, embrace of near total aural abstraction, and confident use of noise, rigorous live electronic improvisation, and a positive mindset were all factors in Cluster's innovative trailblazing of 1971. For want of a better category, *Cluster* was classified rather inappropriately and incorrectly as "cosmic." Few recognized Cluster for what it was – a synthesis of pop music, stripped of embarrassing glamor, and so-called serious music without intellectual constraints. Moebius and Roedelius took the liberty of raiding both disciplines to perfect their musical concept. A common enough practice today, but akin to a palace revolution in 1971. So it is that three pieces of electronic music meander and pulsate through *Cluster*, with no beginning and no end. Cluster's music is free and open in all directions. There are sounds, noises, and structures to be heard on this album that would become ingrained in the electronic pop music of the 1980s and 1990s. Cluster had taken the first step into the future.

TRACKLISTING

- A1. [Untitled] (7:42)
- A2. [Untitled] (15:43)
- B1. [Untitled] (21:32)

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2016 re-release of Bureau B's 2010 reissue of **Cluster**'s landmark 1971 self-titled debut.
- First edition to restore the track running order of the original Philips release.
- Includes liner notes by electronic avant-garde pioneer **Asmus Tietchens**.
- 140-gram LP.
- "Engineered by **Conny Plank**, the three untitled tracks form dark tunneling echoes around icy repeated synth bleats, soaring electronic drones in winding and diving pitches, and sporadic alert signals fusing the new possibilities for electronic noise production with the repetitions and resonances of dub." –*The Wire*

Also available:

(BB 026CD/LP) Cluster: *Grosses Wasser* CD/LP [EAN #4047179303521/4047179303514]
(BB 029CD/LP) Cluster & Eno: *Cluster & Eno* CD/LP [EAN #4047179303828/4047179303811]
(BB 038CD/LP) Cluster: *Curiosum* CD/LP [EAN #4047179374125/4047179374118]
(BB 039CD/LP) Cluster: *Sowieso* CD/LP [EAN #4047179374224/4047179374217]
(BB 058CD) Cluster: *Cluster 71* CD [EAN #4047179488624]
(BB 171CD/LP) Cluster: *Apropos Cluster* CD/LP [EAN #4047179883726/4047179883719]
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