



Interview with MELLER

1. When was it your first approach to the psy-trance music?

[Scherer]

In the year 2000 I visited my first psytrance party near Frankfurt, Germany, and was quite impressed by sound and atmosphere. Before that happening I was exclusively visiting techno and trance parties.

[MeI]

1999 I was taken along to my first psytrance open air. I was very excited about the music played at the event. Before that I mostly visited trance parties near Hamburg.

2. And how and when did you actually start your career?

[Scherer]

Until the mentioned party I was spinning techno and trance music which I began 1992 but as I was very impressed by psytrance music I began buying and spinning this sound.

[MeI]

This also was in 1999 when I played on a goa party the first time. The event was called "Sternstunden" and was held in my residence Elmshorn. Consequently I sent out loads of demo cds and quickly got connected to the scene.

3. How would you describe the style of your sound? What better inspires you?

[Scherer]

I think it's a mixture of progressive, tribal and full-on sound. I'm not a fan of very minimalistic music nor of overloaded tunes. The most important thing to me is groove and the idea behind a track. Inspiration comes from everywhere.. music, nature, people, parties etc.

[MeI]

I like melodic sounds but aren't averse to hard stuff. The most important thing to me is a definite structure, I'm not a friend of chaotic tracks. Anything can be inspiring as Marco already mentioned.

4. What are your favourite pieces of gear while creating music? and for your live sets?

Studio gear:

Access Virus A - *the alrounder*
Novation BassStation - *old and smart but eeevil*
Korg Electribe R - *a solid drummachine*
Yamaha QS-300 - *the raver's babe; cheap but interesting sounds*
Novation DrumStation - *good for standard sounds like 808/909*
Alesis HR-16 - *inconspicuous drummachine but used very often*
Akai S-2000 - *standard sampler*
Waldorf Pulse - *nice bass sounds and easy to use*
Alesis MMT-8 - *very old hardware sequencer*
Zoom 9030 Fx Unit - *cheap and with defect display but still nice*
Yamaha Rev-100 - *delay effect*
1.7 Mhz PC with M-Audio Quattro Interface

Live gear:

Access Virus A
Novation BassStation
Alesis HR-16
Alesis MMT-8
Korg Electribe R
Waldorf Pulse

Akai S-2000
Yamaha Rev-100
2 x Pioneer CDJ-100s
Various percussion elements

5. Do you communicate with the crowd when you play? What are your impressions?

When playing live we try to find the sound that actually fits best. As this depends on the people, event, location, wheater etc. It's always an interesting and thrilling task. It's a really good feeling to hit the crowds' taste and especially in the psytrance scene the people on the floor reflect the energy you put into your set.

6. Could you name the most important gig you have taken part in? and which would you rather forget?

There are no "good" or "bad" gigs. We always gain experience.

7. How is the psichedelic scene in your country?

It's getting harder to hold parties as more and more events are forbidden (especially in the south of Germany) but I think this keeps the underground alive. The parties sometimes remind me of the german mentality in general. In comparison to parties outside germany the atmosphere here is much „cooler“ respectively „colder“. Nevertheless you have a great amount of parties to visit and you always meet nice people. Like all other countries Germany also has top quality acts, producers, djays, labels etc. If you don't mind the „cool“ business it's a good place to be active.

8. So far, what are your favourite psytrance projects?

[Scherer]

Music: Hyper Frequencies, Codex, Bamboo Forest, Lish, Drone, Ultravoice, OTG, Kopsses, Rev, Sensphere, ESXS, PTK, Nuclear Ramjet, Absolum
Labels: Candyflip, AP Records, Medium, Doof, Mechanik Sounds, Iboga, Nephilim, YSE, Compact, Plastik Park
Decoration: Plastic Vision, JaMel and more

[MeI]

Alien Project, Bamboo Forest, Nuclear Ramjet, Spiralianz and many more...

9. Do you also like any other kind of music?

[Scherer]

For sure. Britney Spears is great ☺ No, seriously.. I listen to nearly any kind of music except folk and popular songs. i.e. I like Madonna, Olive, Sammy Davis, just to mention some. At home I mostly listen to chillout and electro beats.

[MeI]

In my free time I listen to anything. It's important to get some disparity to raise new energy. But mostly I listen to Depeche Mode.

10. What are your future plans?

[Scherer]

In general: Being able to do the same things I'm doing right now. That means working in our organization plasticAge music, producing music, managing our artists, having dJays and live gigs, fun (indeed!) and so on. And when the time is right we'll found our own label. So there are no concrete plans, just going into music more and more..

[Mel]

I'm decided to put all my powers into our project „Meller“ as it's my favorite one and I wish that we'll have loads of fun and experience.

11. Which Meller releases are planned right now?

In March or April we'll release a single 12" with two tracks, followed by the Meller album some weeks later. Both will come on AP Records.

<http://www.ap-records.com>

12. What are your next dates?

28.02.2004	Distanz (Karlsruhe)	Meller Live, Scherer, Mel
06.03.2004	Psyway (Oberwesel)	Meller Live
13.03.2004	Harlequins Clubnight (Heidelberg)	Scherer
19.03.2004	Spring Schprung (Nürnberg)	Meller Live, Scherer, Mel
20.03.2004	Alice im Wunderland 2 (Heilbronn)	Scherer, Mel
03.04.2004	Teeabend (Heidelberg)	Scherer
01.05.2004	Gurunity (Darmstadt)	Scherer
08.05.2004	The Suite (Mannheim)	Scherer
28.05.2004	Liquid Time (Hagenow)	Meller Live

13. How can people get in contact with you? And where to get info about Meller, latest gigs etc?

Per email to meller@plasticage.de and on our websites <http://www.plasticage.de> and <http://www.dj-mel.de>