

# CONVERTIBLE

ALH84001

(Konkord048/Hoanzl/Broken Silence)



## When shapes collide into a perfect fit .....

**ALH84001**, the long-awaited fourth album by Hans Platzgumer's *Convertible*, drives the Gran Senor of Austria's Alternative Music further into acoustic, pure and analogue realms. Just like his debut *Convertible* (2004) this album was more or less recorded by Hans Platzgumer himself. Already for the second album *Frailty of Win - Strength of Defeat* (2006), the formerly predominant symbiosis of Electronica and Rock instrumentation was modified towards hand-played instruments.

And in the end, for *Convertibl3* (Monkey 2007) - generally known as the band's White Album - the computer was banned for good. From now on polyphonic vocals, string arrangements and a rather dirty way of production reminding of obscure 60s/70s records predominate. For **ALH84001** the acoustic spectrum was enhanced by a mandoline, bouzouki, cello and hammond organs, there are hardly any contortions or further sound adaptations to be found.

**ALH84001** is neither Nu-Folk nor a nostalgic undertaking of any sort. A world between decadence and tragic, opulence and scantiness is being created here, and it hypnotizes its listeners with the silence between the chords and HP's touching voice. But beware - this idyll is treacherous! It only takes a few scratchy string arrangements and well-placed words to drift from relaxed Folk-Psychedelic into the bizarre realm of the psychotic.

In a time that often knows Folksong only as a ragged creature, where scarecrows can hardly be told from dandys, these cunning, extraordinarily well arranged album titles stand out from otherwise mostly standardised folk sentimentalism.

So what is left over? - Demons, ghost songs blown over from the fields, the rivers' endlessly monotonous stories, dreadful heat and bitter cold, hallucinations in a cursed place amidst the rural idyll. In short: the complex lyrics - which once again were written in cooperation with Hannah MacKenna; poems by Robert Frost and Albert Ostermaier set into music; or a cover by The Smiths, that perfectly fits the scene.

And then again - maybe **ALH84001** simply is a revenant of HP's first coup, the legendary debut album *Tod der CD!* (1987). Because, as we all know: the older the houses, the more cunning are the ghosts within.

### Hans Platzgumer on KONKORD

Soundtrack, CD, KONKORD 035 (2009)

Musiken für Theater, CD, KONKORD 031 (2008)

hp.stonji, Syntonum, CD, KONKORD 015 (2007)

Tracks: Ride - Shapes Collide - Whose Woods Are These - Please Please Please Let Me Get What I Want - Know - Skuns & Porcupines 010 - Space Between - Killing Song - Coming Your Way - If - Needles - No Time - A Vow - Pan Lives (CD Bonus) - Lovesong (CD Bonus)