

Brainwashed - The One Ensemble of Daniel Padden, "Live at VPRO Radio" CD

Written by Brainwashed Recordings
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VPRO Radio is most internationally known for their Mort Aux Vaches series and Brainwashed is honored to be blessed with the second release of the year produced live at VPRO Radio by the generous Berry Kammer and Maurice Woestenburg. The One Ensemble of Daniel Padden became the working name for Daniel Padden's extracurricular solo activities outside of Volcano the Bear. Two albums surfaced through Catsup Plate (US) and Textile (FR) almost completely recorded by multitalented multiinstrumentalist Daniel Padden, himself. Following the two releases Padden assembled an actual ensemble and has played numerous concerts and fests around Europe.

As a close and personal friend, Daniel Padden sent me the CD of the radio session. I was completely blown away at how incredible his band had transformed his songs into something so complete and fully realized. As many of the songs are older, they won't be recorded for the next album. I didn't want these recordings to go unheard or unnoticed. Live at VPRO Radio perfectly captures an amazing ensemble in the studio, and in a world which praises a lot of "new folk," there's something to be said for musicians who are incredibly talented and led by a fantastic composer and arranger like Daniel Padden.

The music is stellar with the instrumentation of drums, vocals, guitar, cello, viola, and bouzouki, challenging the dogmas of western songcraft while never losing its step and falling down the beaten path of clumsy nosiemaking.

Like the Windy & Carl CD, "Dedications to Flea," this one is letterpressed in a limited edition of 500 copies by Interrobang (Isis, Converge, Hydra Head) and the music is so fantastic that I anticipate it will sell out just as quickly.

For the record, of all the releases from Brainwashed this year, none have received any negative reviews!