



The Annotated Modern Dance

Pere Ubu tours Europe in May 2011 with a special program, "The Annotated Modern Dance." The band will perform its seminal debut album in its entirety along with the Hearpen singles that preceded it. Brief anecdotes will precede the songs.

"The Modern Dance" was released in February 1978 and stunned the pop and punk worlds with its vision and audacity. It quickly became a fixture in Great / Most Influential Albums Of All Time lists.

Jon Savage, Sounds, 2/11/78

Uh-oh, this is getting frustrating, trying to tell you how good this is - black and white is an inadequate substitute for the impact *heard*... This is a brilliant debut. Granted it lacks the superficial accessibility of lesser works, but this time around the aroma lingers. This is built to last! Ubu's world is rarely comfortable, full of the space beyond the electric light and what it does to people, but always direct and unwavering. And courageous.

Ian Birch, Melody Maker, 3/18/78

It's a devastating debut...this album has struck me with a vengeance. Because it delivers such a powerful, complex and open-ended punch, it's almost impossible at such an early stage to explain why or how in full detail.

David Stubbs, Uncut, August 2006 - 5 Stars

Announced by the siren squeal of Allen Ravenstine's analogue synth which launches "Non-Alignment Pact," *The Modern Dance* is a product of Cleveland, the living model of punk's post-industrial wasteland. Yet this is a far more cerebral, imperishable proposition than a mere local cry of urban discontent. The *Eraserhead*-style sad-clown persona of singer David Thomas, Tom Herman's nerve-shredding slide guitars and Ravenstine's abstract electronics combine to form a rock music as visceral and essential as The Stooges, yet which reaches parts of the brain untouched by their peers, predecessors or successors... An album that's only gotten more awesome with age.

"We determined not to be slavish about reproducing the album but we get pretty close," says Pere Ubu singer David Thomas. "Closer than I thought possible. We've done many of these songs for decades off and on but it was interesting and revealing going back to the album versions and re-visiting the original intentions of the songs. Some of them we haven't played since 1978."

Pere Ubu make a music that is a disorienting mix of midwestern groove rock, "found" sound, analog synthesizers, falling-apart song structures and careening vocals. It is a mix that has mesmerized critics, musicians and fans for decades. The band was formed as a studio project that drew on a body of musicians who were involved in a Cleveland underground music scene that had, by August 1975, seemed to have run its course. The original object of the band was to document the work done and then go away. Within months, however, their first self-produced single ("30 Seconds Over Tokyo" / "Heart Of Darkness") was being snapped up in London, Paris, Manchester, New York and Minneapolis. Pere Ubu was about to change the face of rock music. For over 36 years they've defined the art of cult; refined the voice of the outsider; and influenced the likes of Joy Division, Pixies, Husker Du, Henry Rollins, REM, the Sisters of Mercy, Thomas Dolby, Bauhaus, Julian Cope and countless others. See <http://www.ubuprojex.net/pereubu.html> for a full biography.

The band for this tour is:

David Thomas - vocals

Keith Moliné - guitar

1. Robert Wheeler - synthesizers, theremin

Michele Temple - bass

Steve Mehlman - drums





Tour Dates

- 11.5. D - Düsseldorf, ZAKK
- 12.5. NL - Haarlem, Patronaat
- 13.5. B - Brussels, Botanique (Ronde), Les Nuits Du Botanique Festival
- 14.5. B - Diksmuide, 4AD
- 15.5. F - Paris, Batofar
- 16.5. D - Hamburg, Fabrik
- 17.5. S - Malmö, Inkonst
- 18.5. S - Stockholm, Strand
- 19.5. N - Oslo, John Dee
- 20.5. N - Trondheim, Bleast
- 21.5. S - Gothenborg, Brew House
- 22.5. FIN - Helsinki, Tavastia
- 23.5. D - Frankfurt, Mousonturm (Studio)
- 24.5. CH - Bern, Dampfzentrale
- 25.5. D - München, Feierwerk
- 26.5. D - Berlin, Quasimodo
- 27.5. E - Barcelona, Primavera Festival

Useful Links

Band photos: <http://www.ubuprojex.net/ubupix.html>
The Modern Dance album cover: <http://www.ubuprojex.net/albumart.html>
The Modern Dance album notes: <http://www.ubuprojex.net/historical.html>
Ubu Projex Press Center: <http://www.ubuprojex.net/resources.html>
Audio Download site: <http://www.hearpen.com>
The most complete Pere Ubu reference site (French language): <http://www.ubudance.com>
Pere Ubu Radio: <http://www.myspace.com/pereuburadio>

Interviews

David Thomas and other members of the band are available for interviews - via email is preferred. Contact directors@ubuprojex.net.

hearpen.com

Hearpen Records was the band's own label started in 1975 and home of the first 4 singles. It was revived in 2007 as an audio download site devoted to live recordings and "non-commercial" releases. A recording of the "The Annotated Modern Dance" from 2010 featuring original guitarist Tom Herman and recorded at Cleveland's Beachland Ballroom is available there. Recently, demo works-in-progress of the next Pere Ubu album, Lady From Shanghai, have been posted.

hearpen.com: <http://www.hearpen.com>

The Annotated Modern Dance: <http://hearpen.com/hr148.html>