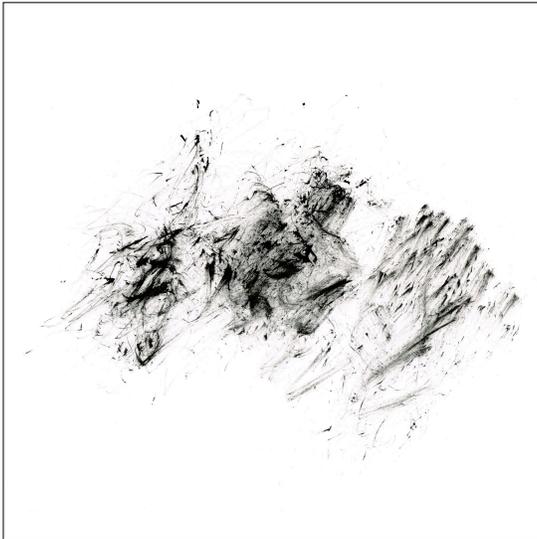


Natura Morta

Frantz Lorient - viola
Sean Ali - contrabass
Carlo Costa - percussion

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Decay

Decay is Natura Morta's second studio album. It will be released on the British label FMR Records in January, 2014. The album was recorded in Brooklyn, NY a few days after a 10 day tour in the Northeast and Midwest of the US in the Spring of 2012.

www.fmr-records.com

Since its inception in the summer of 2011, the trio Natura Morta has been dedicated to exploring musical structures and relationships through all-acoustic improvisation. Through rehearsals and performances, the trio has developed a very personal musical language with which it creates instant musical forms. The architecture or design of each improvisation is carefully constructed in real time in an attempt to create a balance between stillness and motion, silence and saturation, tension and release, purity and elaboration, anticipation and surprise, continuity and interruption, etc. Focusing on these basic principals, Natura Morta draws listeners into a sound world where a musical landscape slowly unfolds in time. The members of Natura Morta are invested in researching the sonic possibilities of each of their respective instruments and make use of these to create a distinctive collective pallet of sound. Each musician uses extended techniques, preparations and a variety of objects to broaden the sonic possibilities of each instrument within the realm of acoustic music. It is important for the trio to keep all sound sources acoustic in order to retain a strong physical relationship with all sounds produced.

Natura Morta released its debut recording, the Natura Morta EP, in March 2012 on the Brooklyn-based record label Prom Night Records. The band performed several concerts in New York City and toured the East Coast/Midwest of the US twice that year. In October 2012 Natura Morta released a live recording on a split tape with guitarist Nick Millevoi on the Philadelphia-based label Edible Onion. In January 2014 the trio released Decay, its second studio recording on the British label FMR Records.

Bios

French violist Frantz Lorient performs solo as well as in various ensembles by way of improvisation and electronics. Active in a number of international ensembles, besides Natura Morta his projects include: baloni - with Joachim Badenhorst (clarinets) & Pascal Niggenkemper (double bass), Viola Two Viola - with Cyprien Busolini (viola), duos with Jeremiah Cymerman (clarinet) and Denman Maroney (piano) and treffpunkt with Mikko Innanen (saxophones), Cédric Piromalli (piano) and Christian Weber (double bass). He is a member of Joachim Badenhorst Carate Urio Orchestra and Pascal Niggenkemper Vision7. He is currently working on his "Notebook Large Ensemble", a ten piece ensemble. In addition to his own projects he has also worked alongside many musicians such as Joëlle Léandre, David S. Ware, Anthony Braxton & Walter Thompson Orchestra, Barre Phillips, and many others. After living in Paris and New York City, FL recently relocated in Zürich (CH). www.frantzlorient.com



Bassist, composer, and improviser Sean Ali from Dayton, Ohio has been living in New York City since 2003. There he participates in the city's vibrant experimental music scene both as a performer and curator. Aside from Natura Morta, his current projects include: Fester with David Grollman (snare drum), Hag with Brad Henkel (trumpet) and David Grollman (snare drum), PascAli with Pascal Niggenkemper (bass), LathanFlinAli with Lathan Hardy (alto sax) and Flin van Hemmen (drums), and Trismegistus with Joe Moffett (trumpet), Ben Gerstein (trombone) and Devin Gray (drums). He also does solo performances that involve text and sound-specific preparations for the bass. He is the founder and leader of a large ensemble of low-tone instruments called The Mudbath Orchestra.

Sean Ali performs regularly in New York City and has toured extensively throughout the United States and Europe.

seanali.com



Drummer and percussionist Carlo Costa, was born and grew up in Rome, Italy. Since 2005 he has been living in New York City where he takes part in the city's improvised music scene as a leader or co-leader of various projects as well as a sideman. Besides Natura Morta he currently leads or co-leads the Carlo Costa Quartet (w/ saxophonist Jonathan Moritz, trombonist Steve Swell and bassist Sean Ali), a duo with drummer Flin van Hemmen, Earth Tongues (w/ trumpeter Joe Moffett and tubist Dan Peck), a duo with guitarist Ryan Ferreira, the large ensemble Acustica and a solo drums project. Carlo is also currently a member of Kenny Warren's Laila and Smitty (w/ Jeremiah Lockwood, Myk Freedman and Josh Myers) and Jean-Brice Godet's Mujô Quartet (w/ Pascal Niggenkemper and Michaël Attias).

www.carlocostamusic.com



Press

Decay Review on the New York City Jazz Record, Clifford Allen (11/1/2014)

“The closing “As the Dawn Fades” is a fine introduction to their music, recalling the Gagaku inclinations of late ‘60s Spontaneous Music Ensemble in its meditative, scrabbled processional as Costa makes gestured sweeps from gongs, singing bowls and drums, punctuated by muted, aggressive scrapes and woody thwacks.(...) A landscape of bowed metal, measured and condensed strikes and guttural drones make up the tough “Miasmata”, closer to the Gravity Adjusters Expansion Band or Ensemble Musique Vivante (and thus the contemporary composition realm) than free music and speaks to the structured intensity of Natura Morta’s shared language.”

Decay Review on Free Jazz Blog, Stef Gjissels (7/26/14)

“You can only say this: it is intense, very intense, hypnotic even at moments and utterly strange, beautiful, horrifying and compelling. The trio's great quality is the incredible amount of restraint demonstrated to conjure up a vast atmosphere of desolation. It is fascinating to hear completely improvised pieces that are so coherent. (****)”

Decay Review on Touching Extremes, Massimo Ricci (5/26/14)

“Another meritorious outing by Natura Morta after their debut EP in 2012. Decay contains four considerate improvisations devised with absolute dignity, the trio making the most of deceptively frail structures as the music – though never exceeding certain dynamic thresholds – results gifted with vital strength to spare.”

Decay Review on Jazz Right Now, Cisco Bradley (4/23/14)

“The three musicians featured here are pushing the very limits of their instruments while constructing an engaging narrative through their music, one that is highly abstract, yet personal.”

Natura Morta EP Review on Free Jazz Blog, Stef Gjissels (9/20/12)

“... new elements and suddenly emerging sounds (...) are a source of menace, adding an increase of tension, not actually assaulting the listener - the volume is too low for that - but adding a layer of danger - undefined like creaking floorboards - creating an anticipation of the inevitable doom. The album is short, some thirty minutes only, but really worth looking for. (****)”

Natura Morta EP Review by Ken Waxman on New York City Jazz Record’s July 2012 Issue, and on Jazz Word (7/6/12)

“Using only acoustic instruments, the members of Natura Morta replicate the harsh textures of musique concrète with juddering crunches, abrasive squeaks and vibrating pops. Eschewing amplification, the Brooklyn-based trio of violist Frantz Loriot, bassist Sean Ali and drummer Carlo Costa operate in a dense landscape where extended techniques and instantaneous timbral actions reconfigure their instrument’s conventional timbres into sometimes unidentifiable pieces of a jagged sound picture. (...) Daring and inventive on their debut, the members of Natura Morta are sure to be heard - and heard of - again in this or other configurations.”

Natura Morta EP review on Lucid Culture, Alan Young (6/22/12)

“(...) In its own extremely well-conceived, twisted and defiantly perverse way, it’s a tremendously compelling listen...”