

# Amelia Cuni & Werner Durand

## “Already awake in the night”



LP @ 33 RPM [ 42 min ]

Track listing :

- A1. Already awake in the night
- B1. Wavering twilight
- B2. Morning surge

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250 copies, hand numbered

ini.itu is releasing a new vinyl only LP, composed by **Amelia Cuni & Werner Durand**, with **David Trasoff**.

- **Werner Durand** is coming from the minimalist tradition. He performs his own music for saxophones, Iranian ney and self-made wind instruments since the late seventies, instruments which he enriched through a variety of materials and playing techniques, including digital delays, providing rich textures and ecstatic rhythms. He also started building wind instruments out of plexi-glass and PVC in the early 80s, which led to the foundation of the ensemble **The 13<sup>th</sup> Tribe** in 1990. He was a member of **Arnold Dreyblatt's Orchestra of Excited Strings** and has collaborated with numerous composers/performers including **David Behrman**, **David Moss**, **Muslimgauze**, **Henning Christiansen**, **David Toop**, **David Maranhã** and **Ulrich Krieger**.
- **Amelia Cuni** is a singer, composer and performer who has trained in the tradition of dhrupad singing. She studied in North India for more than 10 years, between 1978 and 1997, under the guidance of the renowned masters **R.Fahimuddin Dagar**, **Dilip Chandra Vedi** and **Bidur Mallik**. Presently, she is engaged in preserving and fostering dhrupad music as well as integrating various artistic traditions with new tendencies. Her present work includes early and contemporary music, multimedia and original compositions in collaboration with artists such as **Terry Riley**, **David Toop**, **Maria Jonas** a.o. She lives in Berlin with Werner Durand and teaches Indian singing at the Vicenza Conservatory in Italy.
- **David Trasoff** is a senior disciple of the late **Ustad Ali Akbar Khan** (1922 - 2009), with whom he studied sarode performance and North Indian classical music since 1973. He has also received guidance from renowned sarode performer **Dr. Rajeev Taranath**. His recordings include a CD of North Indian classical music recorded with **Ustad Zakir Hussain**.

The music on this LP is based on the Hindustani Raag Lalit and its modulation to Raag Todi. Lalit is performed in the early morning before sunrise, Todi later on, after sunrise. Here, they are both played against a background of sine waves tuned to the raag's intervals and going through subtle phase shifting. The restrained sinewaves tapestry, ornamented with Amelia Cuni's voice and David Trasoff's sarode result in a music which is radiating an austere peacefulness, verging on the hypnotic and the soothing, on the inner side intimately spiritual, on the outer side confidently elegant.

### Quotes about Amelia Cuni & Werner Durand :

- "This is not music that borrows a few Indian flavours, but a serious attempt to make something new and expressive from within Indian art music" ( **Clive Bell** )
- "The combination of Amelia Cuni's powerful voice and Werner Durand's musical diversity, have resulted in one of the most invigorating collaborations in recent memory..." ( **Jameela Siddiqi** )
- "Cuni manipulates the minuscule micro-divisions between notes wit an innate ease that Western performers can take as a measure for the future." ( **Philip Clark** )
- "Sooner or later we will have to give a prominent place to Werner among the important figures of post-minimalism" ( **Gino dal Soler** )
- "Werner Durand is a wanderer between the worlds of new music, experimental rock, free jazz and musics of the world." ( **Volker Straebel** )

### Selective discography :

13 <sup>th</sup> Tribe	Ping Pong Anthropology	Review Records	1992	CD
Amelia Cuni	Monsoon Point	New Earth Records	1995	CD
Amelia Cuni	Sings Dhrupad	Hic Sunt Leones	1998	CD
Amelia Cuni & Werner Durand	Drumming Breath	NO-CD	2000	CD
Werner Durand	The Art Of Buzzing	X-Tract	2001	CD
Amelia Cuni	Apsaras	Projekt	2001	CD
Werner Durand & Alio Die	Aqua Planing	Hic Sunt Leones	2005	CD
Werner Durand	Remnants From Paradise	absurd	2008	CD

### Contact :

ini.itu.rec@gmail.com

### Websites :

www.iniiitu.net

www.ameliacuni.de  
 www.myspace.com/ameliacuni  
 www.myspace.com/wernerdurand  
 www.davidtrasoff.com