

Dub Spencer & Trance Hill

CHRISTMAS IN DUB

Echo Beach EB131

(CD/LP/DL)

Release date: Nov 2nd 2018



The first Christmas album of the year has landed – and it sounds a lot like dub.

Last Christmas seems only moments away, but that hasn't stopped these four doughty Swiss musicians from decking the halls in their studio, getting the bass speakers to rumble and the loops to trill. In dulci dub jubilo! In their low-slung reindeer racing sleigh, DUB SPENCER & TRANCE HILL glide through the night of nights with twelve box-fresh cover versions pumping through their speakers, utterly unafraid of overworking a cliché.

Statistically, “love” is probably the most common subject in song lyrics, and many trite lines have been dedicated to it – closely followed by “Christmas”. Now, our Zurich/Lucerne collective have lavished their charming, futuristic sound elements on the topic, pounding through this winter wonderland, hovering somewhere between pop, dub and surreal electronics, liberally spiced with retro roots rocker attitude with a lavish scattering of warm analogue delay and reverb effects. This album sits skilfully right at the intersection of elevator muzak and elegant dub, and it has a very simple, unpretentious message: without a groove there's no dub – and no Christmas either.

For some of the tracks, it's only the second time round that you realise which Christmas song is being covered here. Here's a tip: the bass line is crucial, as it is usually the instrument that plays the Christmassy themes. “Never change a winning song”, thought DUB SPENCER & TRANCE HILL, instead opting to give it a much slacker treatment. The scent of fir branches, incense, Northern Lights and interesting biscuits comes together with a warm Hammond organ, funky guitars, rich drum grooves and a bass that is practically subsonic to create an intelligent, mischievous and leftfield masterpiece.

Following their impressive encounters with artists such as William S. Burroughs, Lee Scratch Perry, Dieter Meier and Ken Boothe, the internationally highly lauded Swiss band have now added their idiosyncratic spin on Christmas, treating Santa to a dub makeover with neofolk collages in reindeer jumpers and minimal dub with space for recorders. Christmas simply couldn't sound any better or more flamboyant!

CD/LP/Download



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CHRISTMAS IN DUB

(limited edition: 999 CDs , 999 LPs incl. CD)

- 01 Oh How Joyfully Dub (*O Du Fröhliche Dub*)
- 02 The First Noel Dub
- 03 Jingle Bells Dub
- 04 Go Tell It On The Mountain Dub
- 05 Come, All Ye Shepherds Dub (*Kommet Ihr Hirten Dub*)
- 06 Morgen Kommt Der Weihnachtsmann Dub

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- 07 Oh, Come, Little Children Dub (*Ihr Kinderlein Kommet Dub*)
 - 08 The Twelve Days Of Christmas Dub
 - 09 O Come, All Ye Faithful Dub
 - 10 Silent Night Dub (*Stille Nacht Dub*)
 - 11 We Wish You A Merry Christmas Dub
 - 12 Lasst Uns Froh Und Munter Sein Dub



from left to right:

Philipp Greter
Markus Meier
Marcel Stalder
Julian Dillier

Organ, Keyboards, Melodica, Dubs
Guitar, Banjo
Bass
Drums, Percussions



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