



Mario Batkovic

'INTROSPECTIO'

Album released 3rd December via Invada Records

[Watch and share video for lead track 'Chorea Duplex' with James Holden](#)



[Full res artwork](#) | [Press shots](#) (credit: Rob Lewis) | [Album pre-order](#)

The critics on Mario Batkovic:

"Batkovic is a minimalist, culling mesmerizing melodies and sounds" **Rolling Stone**

"Swiss lightning-conductor drags humble accordion screaming into futurity" **Mojo**

"Finds an immense strength in nothing but his one instrument" **The Quietus**

"A musician who specialises in intense, otherworldly accordion compositions" **Crack**

"Reminds me of why I fell in love with music in the first place" **Louder Than War**

Critically acclaimed Swiss solo accordion player Mario Batkovic is set to release his new album 'INTROSPECTIO' on the 3rd December via Invada Records.

Mixing classical and contemporary sound, Batkovic seeks to explore the sonic possibilities of the accordion, without effects or loops, rather through a mutualist symbiotic relationship between man and instrument. Challenging, hypnotic and grandiose; Batkovic's symphonic vision is unique and he has received widespread critical acclaim, including Rolling Stone magazine who voted his self-titled debut album in the Top 10 'Best Avant Albums of 2017'.

Batkovic is an aesthete, typified in the quality of his writing and arrangements. Challenging, experimental and always hypnotising, his music crosses conventional borders. As a composer, producer and performer, he combines various musical disciplines, taking the accordion to new levels.

His new album 'INTROSPECTIO' is a self-questioning, self-examination of society and the meaning of sound. Featuring collaborations with electronic sorcerer James Holden and former BEAK> member Matthew Williams aka MXLX, in addition to drummer Clive Deamer (Radiohead/Portishead/Robert Plant/Roni Size), saxophonist Colin Stetson and concert choir Cantus Domus, Batkovic questions the place of sound, clichés and prejudices, taking the listener on a journey through infinite universes of sound.

On new single 'CHOREA DUPLEX', Holden's modular synths collide with the acoustic to create a mesmerising energy while the restless urgency of Batkovic's accordion on 'REPERTIO' challenges the realms of possibility as Deamer's drum patterns provide the rhythmic spine. It changes, transforms, becomes wilder and all this without losing its core content.

Known as virtuosos for challenging the convention of their respective instruments, the demiurgic union of Batkovic and Stetson on 'QUIS EST QUIS' increases with an intensity which at points threatens to overwhelm the listener as it builds toward it's denouement. Elsewhere, the darkly, claustrophobic 'SURROGATUM' is both imposing and uncompromising, before the rhythmically pulsating 'PRIMORDIUM FINALE' reveals Batkovic as a master of his instrument able to produce sounds and textures like no one before him.

Musical contrasts run throughout the album. Sound aesthetics versus compositional ethics play out, it all about creation and destruction as our sound researcher creates his very own macrocosm of music and sound. Whether solo or in collaboration, 'INTROSPECTIO' invites us on a rhythmically pulsating trip somewhere between dissolution and new beginnings.

Batkovic has toured around the world and has performed at festivals and venues including Bushfire (South Africa), Supersonic (UK), Le Guess Who (Netherlands), Montreux Jazz Festival (Switzerland), Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, Foundation Cartier (Paris) and Berghain (Berlin). He has contributed compositions to film and game including Die Schwalbe (2016), Neighbours (2021) and Red Dead Redemption II (2018).

Tracklisting:

1. 'SANATIO' (with Cantus Domus)
2. 'REPERTIO' (with Clive Deamer)
3. 'CHOREA DUPLEX' (with James Holden)
4. 'QUIS EST QUIS' (with Colin Stetson)
5. 'SURROGATUM'
6. 'PRIMORDIUM FINALE'

<https://www.batkovic.com/>
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