

Jung An Tagen

Agent Im Objekt

Editions Mego DL/LP

Austrian electronic producer Jung An Tagen aka Stefan Kushima drops his second release on Viennese label Editions Mego. Where last year's *Das Fest Der Reichen* was more wordy, with knotty music to match, *Agent Im Objekt* strips back and simplifies its concept – if only marginally – along with its beats. Opener “20:02 [3] starts logging #public” carries modular loops and sinewaves into a steady, dance-friendly polyrhythm, while “20:03 <Y> IT WAS TOTALLY INVISIBLE” turns its attention away from the track as a whole and towards its constituent parts.

There's greater sonic clarity to *Agent Im Objekt*, where the producer and visual artist (who also creates his own artwork as J Fröhnel) takes a sculptural approach to the material nature of his sounds, recalling Emeralds or Oneohtrix Point Never circa *R Plus Seven*, as well as the textural detail of Sophie's hyperkinetic pop.

Agent Im Objekt explores sounds and substances on an anatomical and atomic level. Where “23:02 <Y> NINE SECONDS LOST” thumps like a heartbeat, “23:59 [0] off (Ping timeout: 2sec)” circles and swishes like electrons around a nucleus. The analogies aren't so far-fetched when you consider the producer's partnering up with JeongHo Park and Scott Sinclair – the programmers responsible for visualizing particle data for CERN Nuclear Research – on the video for “20:03 [Y] HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?”. It's a collaboration that's also enigmatically echoed in the *X-Files* referencing track names, which read like a 1990s chat window, in “21:14 <Y> IT'S BURIED OUT THERE”, “22:53 [0] sets mode” and “23:08 <Y> THIS WAS THE LAST MESSAGE” as well as mystery co-ordinates for “20:32 <Y> 8°13'03.6”N 16°21'35.1”E”.

Described by Mego as “intellectual body music”, *Agent Im Objekt* goes to the core of that physicality on a molecular level, deconstructing what it means to be here, as humans in space.

Steph Kretowicz