

Supersilent @ EMS 3-9 September, 2018

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Photo by Carsten Aniksdal

You can't accuse Supersilent (<http://pitchperfectpr.com/supersilent/>) of keeping the noise down. Ever since the Big Crunch of 1997, when Norway's finest free music outfit came together for the first time, their unpredictable noises and rapturous textures have been heard all around the world – and maybe somewhere outside the stratosphere too. They are a platform for a highly physical improvised electronic music, made by a trio that's a kind of supergroup of Norwegian players in their own right. Arve Henriksen's (<http://www.arvehenriksen.com>) hypnotic trumpet has been heard with everyone from David Sylvian and Laurie Anderson to Jan Bang and the ice music of Terje Isungset, as well as releasing a string of acclaimed solo albums on Rune Grammofon. Keyboardist Ståle Storløkken (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ståle_Storløkken) has worked with Motorpsycho, Elephant9, Terje Rypdal, and the Humcrush duo with Sidsel Endresen. Helge Sten (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deathprod>) uses a complex array of homemade electronics, samplers, sound processing and analogue effects – cumulatively known as the 'Audio Virus' – in his solo ambient music as Deathprod, as well as having worked with Motorpsycho and producing artists like Susanna.

All of Supersilent's music is entirely unplanned, with all three experienced musical adventurers throwing themselves into the moment and riding the emerging maelstrom. The trio swap instruments with abandon: percussion, trumpet and woodwind, electronics and Storløkken's collectable assortment of vintage keyboards. In this technologised environment, sounds are passed around, distorted and spat out again in tantalising splurges.