



## **A. Spell**

**(Swiss/South Africa)**

**CD Release: The Meaning of Life**

**Release Date: 18.03.2016 Worldwide**

**Distribution: Goldbrain**

**label: Everestrecords - Michael Meienberg <mich@everestrecords.ch>**

The Swiss-South African trio A. Spell is one of the most exciting discoveries on the recent music scene. Urban, yet exotic, fragile and bombastic in the same breath; A. Spell put a spell on their audiences from Cape Town to Hamburg, from Maputo to Moscow.

Three years after the release of *Where The Strange Creatures Live*, A. Spell are ready to release a second album entitled:

### **The Meaning Of Life**

A. Spell's music has evolved with bold statements and a strong new direction. On this new recording the music explores stories of queens, emperors, grey moons and dark places, as well as golden glimmers of hope for a meaning of life. Soundscapes and percussive textures mix in rhythmic, structured compositions. Unfamiliar combinations of instruments and rich variety are specialities that are endlessly intriguing. Distorted, effected bass and contra bass clarinet, accompanied by tabla, hybrid drum kit, didgeridoo and playful electronics, all blended together by the richness of an accordion, form the basis for an otherworldly voice soaring high above

„A. Spell“ have found a trio where each musician complements the other perfectly. The band comprises of vocalist and accordion player, Nadja Stoller. Bass clarinet player and electro wizard, Jan Galega Brönnimann and percussionist, tabla and didgeridoo player Ronan Skillen from Cape Town, South Africa.

A. Spell's line-up is intriguing:

Nadja Stoller's recent solo project „Erthbound“ was exceptionally well received with sensational reviews. Nadja belongs to a new generation of singers – confident, independent and never lost for ideas. Jan Galega Brönnimann has been on the scene for years and known for his innovative and cutting edge collaborations. As a composer and instrumentalist he has worked with the likes of: Nils Petter Molvaer, Sidsel Endresen,

Pierre Favre, Saadet Türköz, Eddie Floyd, Round Table Knights, Eivind Aarset, Eddie Floyd, Aly Keïta and Kenny Werner. He is best known as a frontman with his own band, Brink Man Ship. Ronan Skillen has been exploring a fusion of tabla, percussion and didgeridoo by means of a hybrid percussion kit which he designed. This demonstrates a rich textural variety and a unique versatility which he uses in musical genres across the board. Recent collaborations include: Rodriguez (Sugarman), Deep South, Björn Meyer, Babu, Tonik, Johnny Clegg, Freshlyground, Hot Water.

## **Pressreviews**

A Bernese-South African band that will turn heads all over the planet.  
Der Bund, Ane Hebeisen

A.Spell do exactly as their name suggest: they put a spe on you.  
Bewegungsmelder

Possibly the collaboration of the year!  
Kulturagenda

A.Spell is original and absolutely unmistakable within their music as well as with the individual band members. They deliver their repertoire convincingly, ranging from trip-hop, folk and techno.  
Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Ueli Bernays

A hybrid of pop and electro jazz with a potent and extremely successful album that sways between songs and sounds.  
Berner Zeitung, David Loher

People that live on a wider musical horizon will prick their ears with this band. The band open new doors to vast exciting plains.  
Tracks, April 2013

This trio enters the stage and enraptures the audience! Energetic and original.  
A refreshing, big sound that entertains the crowd for a solid hour with an intrigue. Not necessarily a household name yet, but certainly well on their way to becoming so, possibly because of the very fact that their genre defying presence is so mysterious.

Music-on-net, Gerald Langer, Juli 2013

Crunchy electronic beats and percussion combined with bass clarinet and a fragile yet warm voice belonging to Nadja Stoller are all part of a surprising soundscape tapestry. 'Golden sunlight sneaking into my mouth', a definite reflection of her sound as well as in her own lyrics.  
Der Bund

At last it was A.Spell's turn. The trio blended mysterious sounds and was balanced perfectly between the old pillars in the park, Nadja Stoller in the very centre. Soft blue light complimented the sounds of didgeridoo, accordion and bass clarinet. Even the rain that briefly graced the open air setting added it's luster and didn't seem to phase the +4000 people listening.  
Berner Zeitung

A.Spell create music that seems to originate in the jungle and translate best in the forests of the big city, blending a diversity of cultures. Archaic sounds are urbanized and enhanced by organic sounding electronics which all combined, manage to transport listeners to spherical far away places.  
Kulturagenda, Basil Weingartner

"The trio A.Spell manifests music in dreamworlds. Next time at BeJazz Sommer, Rathausplatz Bern."  
Kulturtip, Frank von Niederhäusern

Nadja Stoller	voc, loops, accordeon
Jan Galega Brönnimann	bass clarinet, electronics
Ronan Skillen	tabla, percussion, digderidoo, hybrid drum kit

**Links:**

<http://aspell.ch/>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLTtmeGo7EMX4zeEurnj9CtZs4-KsZrnpF>

**tour 2016**

- 14. april thun mokka
- 16. april witten D steinbruch
- 17. april witten knuts
- 20. april bern bee flat
- 21. april winterthur essebar
- 22. april berlin moving poets
- 23. april bremen villa sponte (jazzahead) 19h!

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