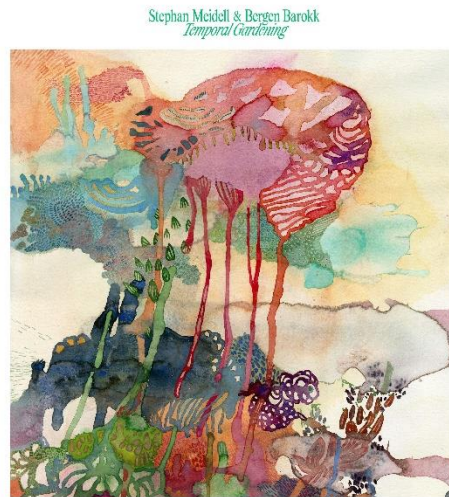




## ***Stephan Meidell and Bergen Barokk releases debut album on Aurora Records!***



Oslo, 05.09.23

Aurora Records proudly presents *Temporal Gardening*, featuring composer and performer Stephan Meidell and the baroque ensemble Bergen Barokk. The new album will be available on vinyl and digital platforms on 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2023.

*Temporal Gardening* was originally a commission written in 2020 for Bergen Barokk. The idea was to explore using early music instrumentation in dialogue with new electro-acoustic technology. The unique and remarkable ecology grew from pseudo-baroque music playfully reimagined, reinterpreted, disassembled, remixed, and resampled.

The trio has been expanded with drums, functioning as speakers for the electronic manipulations of the ensemble. A double-bass recorder vibrates a sub-woofer speaker mounted inside a bass drum, and a live sampled harpsichord sounds through cymbals, gongs, and a snare drum. Meidell himself part takes as a musician in the performance, doing live sampling and electronic contributions.

*What is baroque? And why am I drawn toward it? That is a question I have been asking myself for several years, ever since making the music for Metrics (Hubro 2017). It is somewhat defined by the relation between the excessive and the organic. The castles may be extravagant, but they reek of bodies and muck. I revisited this question by getting the privileged opportunity of writing a piece for Bergen Barokk. Not so much by conceptualizing or analyzing, but rather by feeling my way through what the baroque means to*

*me and how I could envision the baroque sounding today, resonating through instruments, bodies, and spaces. Tracing a lineage to the tradition but still allowing influences I've grown up with and internalized in my life to seep through. I sought to augment the traditional instrumentation of harpsichord, recorder, and baroque cello with electronics. It could stimulate extravagant electro-acoustic improvisations unfolding through acoustic instruments using today's technology. - Stephan Meidell*

### **Stephan Meidell**

Musician-composer Stephan Meidell is a musical adventurer who, in a nomadic fashion, improvises his way through a plentitude of styles. Meidell's music exists where genres dissolve into fragments that can be picked apart and combined in new ways. He frequently combines sounds from electronic, acoustic, and electromechanical instruments and machines and then recontextualizes them with his finely tuned intuition and sense of detail. Meidell has a plentitude of releases and commissions, including with Erlend Apneseth Trio, Strings & Timpani, Cakewalk, and TRIGGER on labels such as Hubro, Clean Feed, Playdate, and Ideophone.

### **Bergen Barokk**

Bergen Barokk was established in 1994 and is today one of Norway's leading early-music ensembles. The group has concertized and appeared in radio broadcasts in Europe, Russia and USA. Their recordings on Simax Classics, BIS, Bergen Digital Studio and Toccata Classics include German, English, Italian and French repertoire. Bergen Barokk has collaborated with several ensembles through the recent years, some of them are Pratum Integrum (Moscow), Norwegian Soloists' Choir and Barokksolistene (Norway). Bergen Barokk has performed in festivals like Festspillene i Bergen, Bach Festival of Philadelphia, Moscow Early Music Festival and Janáček International Music Festival (Czech Republic).

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### **TRACKLIST**

#### **Side A**

1. Creeping Thyme - Thymus Serpyllum (6:20)
2. Glory Bower - Lamprocarnos Spectabilis (4:52)
3. The Golden Oyster - Pleurotus Citrinopileatus (2:40)
4. Indigo Milk - Lactarius Indigo (2:11)
5. Boomers - Psilocybe Cubensis (4:18)

#### **Side B**

6. Royal Sun - Agaricus Blazei (2:58)
7. Weeping Willow - Salix Babylonica (9:41)

8. Impatiens - Impatiens Capensis (1:42)

9. Wisteria - Wisteria Sinensis (5:12)

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Title: Temporal Gardening

Artists

Stephan Meidell: live sampling and electronics

Bergen Barokk:

Jostein Gundersen – tenor and sub contra bass recorder

Siri Hilmen – baroque cello

Hans Knut Sveen - harpsicord

Catalogue number: ACDLP5114

Label: Aurora Records

Release date: 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2023

Format: LP / digital

EAN: 7090057990143

Producer: Stephan Meidell

Recorded by: Stephan Meidell and Davide Bertolini

Recorded at the Grieg Academy in Bergen in 2022

Design: Blunderbuss

Web: [www.aurorarecords.no](http://www.aurorarecords.no)

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