

## AHAD'S MASTERS GARDEN V.: HOLY GHOSTS IN THE MACHINE – IN MEMORIAM ERNŐ KIRÁLY

– a lo-fi/lo-tech piece for the *Dictaphonia Microcassette Compilation Project*, curating and conceived by **Hal McGee** (USA). Released on *Dictaphonia Microcassette Compilation Project Volume 7* (March, 2010)

<http://www.halmcgee.com/dictaphoniavolumeseven.html>

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**Zsolt Sörös aka Ahad** plays on cassette recorder, Korg DS-10, Korg KP-1, Boss GX-700.  
Track recorded at home on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 by **Ahad**.

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In 1998 the two Hungarian experimental musicians, the members of the **s.k.ψ** duo, **Zsolt Kovács** (guitar, electronics) and **Zsolt Sörös aka Ahad** (viola, home-made sonic objects, electronics) asked **Ernő Király** (home-made zitherphone and tablophone) the legendary avant-garde composer and pioneer improviser in Serbia in order for a trio to be created, that they played Király's works written onto this trio. The recently discovered archive live concert sound recording that was the starting point of the piece **Holy Ghosts in the Machine** was taken on one of the stations of the **s.k.ψ + Ernő Király** trio's European tour, in Brno, Czech Republic on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 1999 at the underground music club *Skleněná Louka (Glass Meadow)*. The performance were recorded on analogue tape by a vintage magnetophon tape recorder by **David Šubík**. There are few and short live manipulated sound samples in **Holy Ghosts in the Machine** apart from the previous work by **Ahad** entitled **Ahad's Masters Garden II.: Songs from the Lotus Island – A Prelude for a Collective Ayahuasca Healing /Hommage à Alejandro Jodorowsky/**. (From the fourth chapter of this work: *Les Technopères /Anarchopsychotiques/*.)

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The work of composer and ethnomusicologist, "the Hungarian Harry Partch" **Ernő Király** (1919, Subotica, Serb-Croatian-Slovenian Kingdom – 2007, Novi Sad, Serbia) can be described as simple, radical and surrealist including raw modernity, archaic and avant-garde approach. His creative method has more in common with the American avant-garde (improvisation, instrument building, composer-performer, multi-instrumentalism) than with dogmatically rigid European compositional practice. The decisive factor in his career was ethnomusicology, which he began in the fifties, collecting the vocal and instrumental music of the people of the Voivodina region (Hungarian, Serbs, Croats, Slovaks, Gypsies) as well as their folk instruments: zithers, drums, flutes and fifes. One of his home-mades, the zitherphone was invented and constructed in 1974 by **Király** himself, based on the Hungarian folk instrument, the zither. It consists of five zithers of varying sizes, incorporated into a single body (there exists also a version with four zithers). There are 58 strings in it, which are built in on the basis of the A-pentatonic / la-pentatonic scale (A, C, D, E, G). In certain places the struts are placed at a distance of a quarter tone. Its range exceeds five octaves (E<sub>1</sub> – gis<sup>3</sup>), and it can be played on by fingers, by a plectrum, a bow and various other objects. If necessary, two persons can play on it at the same time. In this way a polyphonic playing is achievable. The natural strength of the sound is the same as that of the guitar. In order strengthen the sound of the instrument. **Király** has placed 16 pick-ups into it. In that way one gets the double strength of its original tune.

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### ***Ahad's Masters Garden Series* (since 2007)**

The electro-acoustic concerts, the conceptual or radio art projects and the album releases, which are parts of the **Ahad's Masters Garden Series** are not only an alternative film scores project, but more importantly a collection of works of sound art influenced by films. The antecedents of the AMG project date back to 2002/2003 when the group *s.k.ψ* (**Ahad** and **Zsolt Kovács**) toured with their live soundtrack project *Angersonix* (dedicated to the films of **Kenneth Anger**) across Europe.

#### **I. *Shapeshifting* (2007)**

- (live solo) soundtracks for the following films: **Rrose Sélavy**: *Anémic Cinéma* (1926); **Alan Schneider**: *Samuel Beckett's Film* (1965); **Alexander Hammid**: *The Private Life of a Cat* (1944).  
video:

<http://www.blip.tv/file/3499703/>

<http://blip.tv/file/3496401/>

<http://blip.tv/file/3453928/>

#### **II. *Songs from the Lotus Island – A Prelude for a Collective Ayahuasca Healing /Hommage a Alejandro Jodorowsky/* (2007)**

This audiowork is a sound collage / special mix for the experimental radio art program Mixmag at the Radio Petőfi, Hungary. Program curated by Tamás Turai.

<http://ahad.bandcamp.com/album/ahads-masters-garden-ii-songs-from-the-lotus-island-prelude-of-a-collective-ayahuasca-healing>

#### ***Do you want gold?***

Live soundtrack for the first 31 min director's cut footage of **Alejandro Jodorowsky's** *The Holy Mountain* (1973) – a special project for the Württembergischer Kunstverein Stuttgart.

info:

<http://www.wkv-stuttgart.de/en/programme/2009/events/miklos-erdely/>

#### **III. *The Harmonian Blues – Music for Film, Theatre and Dance* (2007-2009)**

– (with the group **Desert Chaos**) will be the upcoming release in January, 2011 as a three-way split 2 CD album with Ahad, Audiotong and Fourth Dimension Records. This album contains the music pieces what was composed for the surreal-horror film *Ingression* by the underground film director from Russian Far-East, Khabarovsk City, **Andrey Iskanov**.

info:

<http://www.fourth-dimension.net/>

#### **IV. *Empire* (2009)**

– (live group project with the following participants: **Ahad**, **Csaba Füle** from Budapest, **Masuda "Despera" Keisuke** and **Yoshida "Sugo" Takayoshi** from from the psychedelic rock band **Uramichi**, Tokyo) live soundtrack for the extant selected 60 mins (at 24 fps) from the originally 485 mins long film *Empire* (1964) by **Andy Warhol**.

<http://ahad.bandcamp.com/album/ahads-masters-garden-iv-empire-live-2009>

video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YRcpUDGzM9c>

#### **V. *Holy Ghosts in the Machine – In memoriam Ernő Király* (2010)**

– a lo-fi/lo-tech piece for the *Dictaphonia Microcassette Compilation Project*, curating and conceived by **Hal McGee** (USA). Released on *Dictaphonia Microcassette Compilation Project Volume 7* (March, 2010)

info:

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**VI. *Drones of New Babylon* (2010)**

– inspired by *Constant Nieuwenhuys*, *Asger Jorn*, *Guy Debord* and other situationists  
video:

<http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/6862517>

**VII. *Ahad & Despera: AMMEen – O / Chapters from the Ahad's Masters Garden Sessions* (2007)**

– (double album) released on 9th May, 2010 at Zeromoon Netlabel (zero106).

Dedicated to the memory of the legendary japanese psychedelic noise rock band *Les Rallizes Denudes* and *Nobuo Nakagawa* (18 April 1905 – June 17, 1984), director of the horror film masterpiece in 1960, *Jigoku (Hell)*.

<http://www.zeromoon.com/?p=299>