

Sonomu, April 2011, Stephen Fruitman (<http://sonomu.net/text/~rotterdam-cambod/>)

## Rotterdam, Cambodia (Everestrecords)

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Techno envy from the conservatory crowd?

Rotterdam are the Viennese duo of Susanne Amann and Michael Klausner. She is a flautist and cellist, he plays the acoustic guitar. They recorded a number of sequences on these instruments which they then looped and treated not quite beyond recognition, but certainly as far from the drawing room such chamber instruments usually inhabit. Through looping, they create a hypnotic, tactual sound digital means would be hard put to emulate.

There is a surprisingly rough, but by no means off-putting, edge to many of the pieces, though the title track is an utter balm on the ear. And they are extremely imaginative in creating beats, most memorably out of the bow bouncing off the taut strings of the cello on "Berlin".

In order for this process to really succeed, it must be mastered (i.e. prepared for pressing, which requires the keenest of ears) with finesse. Therefore Stefan Betke, who turned the skill into an art form and an extraordinary recording career as Pole, is the perfect fit and in fact as much a member of Rotterdam as Amann and Klausner.

<http://www.everestrecords.ch>

Posted by [Stephen Fruitman](#) at 21:47, 12 Apr 2011