

PORT MONE

The instrumental trio Port Mone is known for its unique, intricate, and complex melodies with a prevalent use of accordion. Music of the trio steps away from the typical stylistic norms and links classical music, noise, experimental music, and folk in refreshingly new ways.

Since its creation in 2006 in Minsk, Belarus, Port Mone has become a darling of Eastern European music critics, and the band is a welcome participant of the largest international music festivals (Clandestino Festival 2015 (SWE), VII World accordion festival (PT), Stanser Musiktage festival (CH), Pordenone Silent Film festival (IT), The 13th Crossroads festival (PL), Hevhetia festival (SK), Gogolfest (UA), Artpole festival (UA), Europejski Stadion Kultury (PL), Creation of Peace (RU) and others).

The music by Port Mone was used in numerous documentaries, animation videos, fiction films, and theatrical performances. The band is an active participant of the international projects. In 2012 Port Mone and Ukrainian band DakhaBrakha recorded and released joint program named *Khmeleva Project*. In 2013 on the initiative of the National Oleksandr Dovzhenko Centre (UA) the musicians created music score to the silent movie *Bread* by M. Shpykovskiy (UA, 1930). The work caused a furore at the international film festivals (Mute Nights Festival (UA), Pordenone Silent Film Festival (IT), Gogolfest (UA), and The 5th VOICES film festival (RU)).

Debut album of Port Mone *Dip* released by a well-respected independent label Geometry (Russia) brought them recognition and international acclaim. It won "Foreign Experts' Prize" at Experty.by annual awards in Belarus (voted by critics from Poland, Russia, Lithuania, Latvia, and Ukraine). It was called the best foreign album of 2009 in Croatia.

Second album *Thou* was released by the label Hevhetia (Slovakia) specializing in neoclassical, jazz, and avant-garde releases. The recording of the album turned into experiment with the sound. The studio equipment was moved to a forest where all the tracks were recorded. Such a method of recording was determined not only by the acoustic preferences of the musicians but also by the concept of the material expressing the main creative aim of Port Mone – an appeal to the natural, pure, and primordial in human soul; to something that exists beyond social regulations and codes.

The Guardian (UK): "Port Mone are an instrumental trio who have forged their own voice from a mix of influences, including jazz, minimalism and ambient music. They are still developing in this new direction and are popular among music lovers from both the east and west..."

Rolling stone (Russia): "Despite absence of folk themes, the music suggests itself to be called the roots..."

Music Review Database (UK): "Port Mone have proved on their debut album Dip that the art of minimalistic folk can be done."

FFM (USA): "They turn the traditional harmonies of the accordion into a mix of ambient, noise, experimental, and classical/traditional forms..."

Terapija.net (Croatia): "No words to describe effect of these masters of relatively simple music."

Trio members:

Alexey Vorsoba – accordion

Siarhei Krauchanka – percussion

Aleksey Vanchuk – bass guitar

Discography:

2009 - *DIP*, CD, Geometry label (RU)

2012 – *Khmeleva Project*, CD, Hermetyczny Garaż label (PL), agencies ArtPole and Nash Format (UA)

2014 – *Bread*, DVD, released by the National Oleksandr Dovzhenko Centre (UA)

2014 – *Thou*, CD, Hevhetia label (SK)

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