

## UUSITALO "KARHUNAINEN" (HUUME14)

Influenced by and named after his late-father's well-known theatre play "KARHUNAINEN" (Bear Woman) the artist known as VLADISLAV DELAY continues to search for his rhythmic roots under his UUSITALO alias.

With his groove offerings from the past he often resembled an undertaker at a disco. This ambiguous reflection, however, came as deliberate and calibrated. There are somewhat conscious codes to his work he stands by.

This new UUSITALO album might change some of that impression as it is that this time he is getting more up-front with beats than ever before in his decade-long career.

He now wants to demonstrate and celebrate his quadruple musical identity, his whole story, and it seems the right moment for him to do it.

In spite of being noted for his care and interest in experimental sounds and compositions not yet heard, some of his warmest feelings are reserved for the drum beat.

This deep-rooted loyalty to rhythms, even though hidden and strangled in most of his productions, is about to come more to the surface again.

In a retrospect it only seems obvious that he'd return to the rhythms-driven style of music; after all, his first groove-oriented tracks were chosen by the likes of Thomas Brinkmann, Basic Channel and Richie Hawtin. And above all else, he is a rhythm passionista, a drum collector, a cymbal maker, a true percussion freak.

The new album consists of 10 songs, 8 of which are dedicated to the infamous bass drum.

In an act of conspicuous non-consumption (or extravagant audiophile-ism ?), he chose to only use analog equipment on this album and leave all digital sound processing out which explains the warm and full sound of the album.

His rhythmic fortune is used to great extend on "KARHUNAINEN", so well exhibited for example in his crazy mutant-like cymbal work on track "Satumaa" (Wonderland) that it is no question that something like that could just come out of programming and machines.

He quite wonderfully replaces the drum machines on more than few tracks with a drum stick and anything to hit at, be it random metal surfaces or his young daughter's toys.

To complete the album, there's hauntingly beautiful, cinematic beginning and end to the it, making it a round journey to other worlds and back.

True to his UUSITALO agenda the titles are in Finnish, and with such song names as Korpikansa (Backwoods People) and "Nälkälaulu" (Hunger Song) he is reminiscing his home country he hasn't been living in since many years. Overall the vibe of the album is a beautiful mix of tradition and futurism, coming through in song titles, artwork and design, and of course in the music itself.

The album carries once again a beautiful art work by KAISA KEMIKOSKI, but the booklet also introduces another aspect of the producer himself; he's a keen photographer and his private captures around the world make up the raw material for the aesthetical 16-page booklet.

As many times before in his productions, he spots a rock in the sea of emotion in which he is floundering but doesn't throw it away; he rather picks it up and cherishes it.

These musical moments make up probably at least partly the unique "Vladislav Delay" sound, whatever the style of music he's working on.

He does indeed have a genius for making things sound beautiful but he has always done his best to destroy things enough to achieve a more realistic and personally fitting balance, and like a lot of his productions, this one is laced with venom, brilliance and a hefty dose of illness.

There are lots of things that make the album good, not only the "good" things but equally the more brave components and the odd, challenging moments which give the album its long-lasting nature and depth, and offer once again the beyond-pigeonholing musical fantasy by this so prolific producer SASU RIPATTI.

### "KARHUNAINEN" track listing:

1. Vesi Virtaa Veri (Water Flows Blood)
2. Korpikansa (Backwoods People)
3. Tohtori Kuka (Doctor Who)
4. Konevitsa (Machine Cane)
5. Sikojen Juhla (Feast Of Pigs)
6. Karhunainen (Bear Woman)
7. Satumaa (Wonderland)
8. Näälälaulu (Hunger Song)
9. Himo Perkele (Lust Perkele)
10. Puut Juuriltaan (Roots Out Woods)

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### PRESS QUOTES FROM UUSITALO "TULENKANTAJA" (HUUME07)

#### Carl Ritger - STYLUS

"Essential listening for fans of his work, but an even better starting point for the uninitiated."

#### URB / Walter Wasacz: 5 stars

"The timing for "Tulenkantaja" couldn't be more perfect, coming at a moment when techno once again needs to find fresher kicks."

#### DIW / Nick Sylvester:

"So it's the best, most engaging work he's done since 2000's definite micro-house release "Vocalcity" - less emotionally deep, but the scope is wider."

#### ALMOST COOL:

"I've found my interest with Vladislav Delay growing with just about every release. Tulenkantaja is a needed addition to any collection that worships the beat."

#### GRIDFACE / Jon Fletcher:

"If Vladislav Delay has ever made a poor record, I've yet to hear it and this is certainly no exception. Each listen reveals a million new details and like an endlessly mutating painting. you'll not want to drag your ears away for a second."

#### PITCHFORK / Philip Sherburne:

"The album shuffles confidently towards the perfection of ideal, one burst of delay at a time."

#### TEXTURA.ORG:

"Tulenkantaja is, by Delay standards at least, straightforward and arguably his strongest release in ages. In some ways it's an ideal Uomo-Delay fusion: its propulsive core establishes its accessibility while its wealth of abstract textures ensures it retains Delay's distinctive signature."

#### XLR8R:

"Vladislav Delay's meant-for-the-floor Uusitalo guise ushers in yet another beautiful collection of low-end minimal-techno wizardry. Gorgeous stuff."