

CHAIN D.L.K.

By **Vito Camarretta, August 2015**

You don't need to be a raving fan of free-jazz or free-improvisation to know the name of German musician Peter Brotzmann, as his name begun to dig the grooves of European scene since the end of 60ies, when he shook many soul by means of his notorious "Machine Gun", a release he made with his octet (featuring Buschi Niebergall, Evan Parker, Fred Van Hove, Han Bennink, Paul Rutherford, Peter Kowald, Pierre Favre, Sven-Åke Johansson and Willem Breuker) which included clear references to war in Vietnam an European political situation and made sense if you consider it was released in Berlin in 1968, and his way of playing saxophone as well as clarinet and tarogato (the Turkish pipe) has been so unique that many Free jazz circles use the adjective "brotzen" to describe something closer to his style. Swiss label Cubus gives the chance to listen a solo performance by Peter, which got recorded on 2th October 2013 in a unique location like Berner Munster on the occasion of zoom in, a quite known festival for improv music, and the fact he didn't interact with anything but the surrounding reverbation of that "sacred" hall and his instrument is a chance to better appreciate his way of performing, which didn't lose his evocative energy and his strong hook to reality over years, where reality could sound like a desert ground on which his sound, melting jazz phrasing, Turkish traditional music as well as piles of squeals and screeches, which suddenly pierce listener's soul throuh their spurious obliquity and unexpectedly mellow vaults, flies like a desperately lost seagull. My personal favorite moments of this recording are the raging torn schemes of "Chaos Of Human Affairs" and "Crack In The Sidewalks" as well as the astonishing final "The Very Heart Of Things".