

## **Irk Yste ‘Wumpe/Stroppe’**

*Released by GiveUsYourGOLD, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017*

The first release of the year from our friends at GiveUsYourGOLD – the artist-run Berlin label founded a few years ago by **Alexandre Decoupigny** and **Thomas Tichai**, of **Psycho & Plastic** fame -, the cool aloof **Irk Yste** debut is a sophisticated three-track techno transmission from the historically and culturally important eastern German town of Weimar.

Since bonding in the sandbox of their playschool in '84, the Irk Yste's **Christoph** and **Benjamin** (no surnames given) have shared a penchant for music, especially acid techno. Introduced to the style whilst in Denmark during the dawn of the noughties, the musical partnership toured the (as the bio describes it) "flattest of kingdoms" to ride on that inimitable acid wave. Via a number of projects, including The Zonnhaider's Club and Norsal Flow, and a sojourn studying electroacoustics at the SeaM institute, in the city they now call home, the Weimar duo now release their inaugural explorations under their latest darkly melodic techno incarnation.

Informed by an "iterative" process of building sonic structure and harmony before dismantling and starting anew, the three-track Wumpe/Stroppe suite is a sophisticated, suffused mix of minimal techno, house and, even, jazz. The opening machine-age with soul, Wumpe, starts with a nuanced chain reaction of R&S and Basic Channel flavoured kinetic beats and a sonorous bass drum, but gradually builds to an ascendant, cinematic melody finish. From a similar mould but hinting towards a more lilting nocturnal escape, Stroppe is a metallic glistening slow ride into an unsure future scape. More a vignette, the final track, Pumps, fades in on a stirring pronounced synthesizer drone wave, before a serial accompaniment of warping, wobbling robotic and dial-up sounds interweave with the minimalist stripped-down techno foundations.

An impressive glimpse inside the machine, GiveUsYourGOLD promise that there's more to come from their latest signing. Stay tuned for further techno explorations in the future-now.

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## **Irk Yste: Wumpe / Stroppe**

**Posted by Stuart Bruce (@)**

**Techno / Trance / Goa / Drum'n'Bass / Jungle / Tribal / Trip-Hop**

**Artist: Irk Yste (@)**

**Title: Wumpe / Stroppe**

**Format: Download Only (MP3 + Lossless)**

**Label: GiveUsYourGold (@)**

**Distributor: Finetunes**

"Above all", they claim, "Irk Yste make acid"; on the basis of this release, I'd take issue with that. This is deep techno and if you want filtered squelches, this might be a mis-sell. Nevertheless it's still a release worth checking out though.

"Wumpe" is a steady groove that takes breakbeat patterns, arranges them with a dubstep sound palette, at a house music tempo. Long clean alternating bass notes and simple melancholic chords wash over the top, building and fading in slow moody fashion until around the five minute mark where things begin getting a little bit busier and brighter. It's an exemplary demonstration of how to structure a very simple arrangement in a way that keeps things seriously interesting for seven minutes.

"Stroppe" is not dissimilar. It's slower and a little more sparse, but also a little sonically lightweight. It's not quite as strong as the first track. Like the first track though the final section is to be praised for hinting at another direction of travel, where too often tracks like this fade away or run out of steam rather than end satisfyingly.

Third track "Pumps" is a two-minute long epilogue, a sidechained drone-apella of sorts that feels like leftover stems from the track that didn't make the cut.

[\[http://www.chaindlk.com/reviews/?id=9546\]](http://www.chaindlk.com/reviews/?id=9546)