

# BEAR FAMILY RECORDS



PRODUCTINFO (CD) September 2, 2022

Artist **Various Artists**  
Title **Ost-Kraut! Progressives aus den DDR-Archiven (1970 - 1975), Vol. 1**  
Label **Bear Family Records**  
Catalog no. **BCD17625** Price code: **BS**  
EAN-Code **4000127176257**  
Format **2-CD (Digisleeve) with 76-page booklet**  
Genre **Rock, Progressive Rock, Jazzrock**  
No. of tracks **28** approx. **140:00 min.**  
Release date **September 2, 2022**



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## INFO:

- ***OST-KRAUT!: the two-part double CD series - a long overdue addition to our KRAUT! edition - comprehensively documents the history of progressive music in the GDR for the first time with studio and live recordings!***
- ***Please, note: liner notes in German!***
- **Progressive rock from the German Democratic Republic! Never before has the GDR scene been honoured so extensively with studio and live recordings.**
- **Bear Family Records® has documented what was happening in GDR rock off the mainstream by means of well-known rarities and some that have never before been released on record.**
- **From around 1970 onwards, highly skilled musicians began to copy the sound of their Western idols.**
- **The state's cultural policy had banished followers of western juvenile culture into the underground with restrictions and bans as early as 1965.**
- **There was no 'beat ban' for progressive artists in the socialist brother countries such as Poland and the CSSR - the technical and artistic lead was correspondingly enormous, role models for the burgeoning young GDR scene.**
- **'Progressives aus DDR-Archiven' brings together on two CDs the crème de la crème of the rock scene of the GDR and other socialist countries at the time, with recordings for AMIGA and the Deutsche Rundfunkarchiv (DRA).**
- **The masters originated between 1970 and 1975 and were stylishly compiled by journalist and East German rock connoisseur, Marcus Heumann.**
- **The 76-page booklet with numerous illustrations, photos and biographies of the bands and musicians vividly reflects the history of progressive rock in the GDR.**

After the great success of the four-part double CD edition 'KRAUT! The Innovative Years of Krautrock, 1968 - 1979' on Bear Family Records®, it was obvious to honour the progressive music of the GDR for the first time with a similarly elaborate release!

Admittedly, this series is a bit of a misnomer - the term 'Kraut' was completely uncommon in the GDR music scene, just as 'rock' was still dubbed 'beat' there until the mid-1970s.

However, since about 1970 - and largely unnoticed in the West - many GDR groups played extremely 'progressive' music under this label. Since artists and bands in the GDR had to pass a state aptitude test before they were allowed to earn money with their music, the pioneers of GDR prog often came directly from the music academy - with corresponding craftsmanship. The often sympathetic dilettantism of Western colleagues of the early '70s was an alien phenomenon to them. In those days, live concerts developed into a real competition between bands to play songs from progressive Western idols like Colosseum, Yes or Emerson, Lake & Palmer faithfully down to the last syncopation - whereby the socialist brother countries, especially Poland and the CSSR, also provided important impulses for the GDR scene. Despite all this, no band in the GDR called itself progressive at the time, if only because the term was otherwise occupied by state cultural policy. In 1970, for example, the youth radio station of the GDR's German Broadcasting Corporation tried to sell Ludwig van Beethoven and Ernst Busch to its listeners as the true progressives - in clear

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demarcation from the western rock underground, which was defamed as a ploy of the capitalist music industry. These were the last offshoots of a cultural policy from above that had banished almost the entire, then still young GDR beat scene into the underground by the end of 1965.

In contrast to their GDR colleagues, the musicians in socialist brother countries like Hungary, Poland and the CSSR did not suffer from a beat ban in the sixties - their technical and stylistic advantage was now correspondingly considerable. This did not go unnoticed by the music producers at the radio station and at AMIGA, the GDR's only - and of course state-owned - record company for underground music. Some of the recordings on this compilation provide examples of the 'development aid' of groups and performers from the Eastern Bloc given to the GDR scene, especially in the first half of the 1970s. They often re-recorded their successful songs from their home countries in German, which - as you can clearly hear - they sometimes knew more and sometimes less.

The first part of the edition 'Ost-Kraut! - Progressives aus den DDR-Archiven' (East Kraut! - Progressives from the GDR Archives) brings together on two CDs the crème de la crème of the rock scene of the GDR and the then socialist foreign countries with recordings for AMIGA and the Deutsche Rundfunkarchiv (DRA). All the titles were recorded between 1970 and 1975 and were stylishly compiled by journalist and East German rock connoisseur Marcus Heumann. The history of progressive rock in the GDR is vividly reflected in the 80-page accompanying book with numerous illustrations, photos and biographies of the bands and musicians.

This small series is not intended to be a 'best of' compilation. Bear Family Records® documents what happened in official, media-present GDR rock off the mainstream by means of well-known tunes and some rarities from the German Broadcasting Archive that have never been released on record before.

## TRACKLISTING:

### CD 1:

**Peter Holten Septett:** Weiter, Weiter    **WIR:** Zeit    **Die Skalden (Skaldowie):** Kennst Du das nicht (Czasem kochac chesz)  
**Bayon:** Input    **Rote Gitarren:** Wachsein im Dunkel    **Ekkehard Sander Septett:** Kein Märchen    **Puhdys:** Steige nicht auf einen Baum  
**Joco Dev Sextett:** Stapellauf (Erstfassung)    **Pavol Hammel & Prudy:** Schluss mit den Märchen (Koniec Rozprávky)    **Uve Schikora und seine Gruppe:** Deine Augen    **Bürkholz Formation:** Sei kein Vulkan    **Omega:** Zerbrechlicher Schwung    **Breakout:** Ich hab die Sonne (Na dnie mych oczu)    **Collegium Musicum:** Hommage à Johann Sebastian Bach

### CD 2:

**Electra Combo:** Tritt ein in den Dom    **Nautiks:** Wir gehen am Meer    **Lift:** Roter Stein    **Blue Effect:** Clara    **Klaus Renft Combo:** Was mir fehlt  
**Kati Kovács und die Juventus Gruppe:** Wind, komm, bring den Regen her (Add Már Uram Az Esöt)    **Panta Rhei:** Gib dir selber eine Chance  
**Hungaria:** Die Farben der Natur    **Die Skalden (Skaldowie):** Ein ferner Punkt (Jak Znikający Punkt)    **Set:** Eisen  
**Illés:** Hier stand die Sonne hoch    **Klosterbrüder & Stern Combo Meißen:** Gedanken an Fusion: Aktivität    **Jürgen Kerth:** Nacht unterwegs  
**Modern Septett Berlin:** Sagen

## ALSO AVAILABLE:

Various Artists:  
**KRAUT! - Die innovativen Jahre des Krautrock  
1968-1979, Vol. 1**

BCD17621 BS  
2-CD (Digisleeve) with 100-page booklet  
EAN: 5397102176210



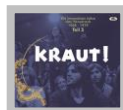
Various Artists:  
**KRAUT! - Die innovativen Jahre des Krautrock  
1968-1979, Vol. 2**

BCD17622 BS  
2-CD (Digisleeve) with 100-page booklet  
EAN: 5397102176227



Various Artists:  
**KRAUT! - Die innovativen Jahre des Krautrock  
1968-1979, Vol. 3**

BCD17623 BS  
2-CD (Digisleeve) with 112-page booklet  
EAN: 5397102176234



Various Artists:  
**KRAUT! - Die innovativen Jahre des Krautrock  
1968-1979, Vol. 4**

BCD17624 BS  
2-CD (Digisleeve) with 100-page booklet  
EAN: 5397102176241

