

## Duo pantoMorf at Aalborg Theater

More than ten years have passed since duo pantoMorf premiered in public at the Norberg Festival in Sweden. The duo consists of Palle Dahlstedt and Per Anders Nilsson. A major asset in the groups music is to play electronic musical instruments with same gestural control as acoustic musical instruments, such as the piano and the saxophone, instruments that has been practiced and played extensively by Dahlstedt and Nilsson. At the core is an electronic instrument developed and played by both performers, *the PressurePad*, which is an integrated part of the duo, rather; the duo was created as a platform for developing and evaluate a new kind of electronic musical instrument. After ten years of extensively playing and performing with this instrument, who found its final form in 2008, it still offers its players musical possibilities and development potential that equals acoustic musical instruments. Furthermore, the core concept of the expressurePad has given rise to a whole family of electronic instruments developed by Dahlstedt. At this particularly concert at the Aalborg Theater, which was a somewhat unfamiliar context; an international theater improfestival. Theater improvisation turned out to have very much in common with duo pantoMorf's way of playing however: improvisation of course, timing, dialogues with sounds, agonistic struggles, associations and re-contextualization, negotiations and distribution of roles with respect to actual playing situation just to mention a few connections. To enhance the theater context the duo also dressed in white lab coats, which underlined the experimental in the music performed. Seen in the rear-view mirror, the actual performance was clearly inspired and influenced by the theater context, more emphasis on dialogue then building homogenous sound textures. This notion was also apparent after the concert, reactions from listeners emphasize perceived similarities between music performed and theater improvisation.

A major asset in duo pantoMorf's music is to play electronic musical instruments with the same gestural control as acoustic musical instruments. In a concert at the Aalborg International Theater Improvisation Festival the duo explored concepts such as improvisation, dialogues with sounds, timing, agonistic struggles, associations and re-contextualization, negotiations and distribution of roles with respect to actual playing situation.