

EMPYRION

ALBUM / PROJECT NOTES | 2024

Klaus Killisch / ambientfunk + Robert Fitterman



Empyrion is a limited vinyl edition by Klaus Killisch / ambientfunk in which sound, painting, text, and print converge. The record brings together three musical compositions, individually painted vinyl surfaces, a screen-printed sleeve, and a sixteen-page artist booklet with a text by Robert Fitterman.

The title evokes fire and transformation. A point of departure for the music is Karlheinz Stockhausen's *Gesang der Jünglinge*, not as a composition to be reproduced but as a reference that opens a field of sonic possibilities.

SOUND, PAINTING, EDITION

Working with voice, electric guitar, effects, percussion, and electronic processing, Killisch builds a sound world through layering, repetition, interruption, and changes in density. The three pieces move between recognizable references and unfamiliar textures. Their structure develops through transformation rather than conventional song form.

The vinyl record is also a visual work. Music occupies Side A, while each B-side is individually painted in acrylic by Killisch. No two copies are identical. The hand-screen-printed sleeve and artist booklet extend the work beyond the recorded sound, bringing painting, typography, and print into the same edition.

Robert Fitterman's contribution provides a distinct literary layer. His booklet text draws on *Dream of the Red Chamber*, continuing a dialogue between found language, cultural memory, and sound that has shaped earlier collaborations. The text is not an explanation of the music; it runs alongside it.

VINYL LP

Side A

Gesang der Jünglinge — 7:47

The Dream of the Red Chamber — 3:41

Empyrion — 3:16

Side B

Individually painted in acrylic

DIGITAL / EXTENDED VERSION

The digital album adds two pieces, *Revolution 9* and *Something Becomes Nothing*, to the three tracks of the vinyl edition. This expanded version can be heard on [Bandcamp](#) and streaming platforms. The digital release broadens the listening experience while the limited LP retains its identity as a physical artwork.

CREDITS & EDITION

Music — ambientfunk / Klaus Killisch

Visual concept, painting & design — Klaus Killisch

Booklet text — Robert Fitterman

Recorded & mixed at Klangpalast, Berlin

Mastering & vinyl cut — Schnittecht, Dresden

12-inch vinyl, painted B-side

Hand-screen-printed sleeve — Martin Samuel, Berlin

Artist booklet — 16 pages

Released February 2024

Edition of 8 + 2 AP

edition liane #10, published by Heinz Havemeister

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Klaus Killisch is a Berlin-based visual artist whose practice encompasses painting, drawing, and collage. He studied painting at the Kunsthochschule Berlin-Weißensee. His works have been exhibited internationally, including at Hamburger Bahnhof — Nationalgalerie der Gegenwart, Berlin. Music, popular culture, and art-historical references inform his visual work. Since 2015, he has also developed experimental music under the name ambientfunk, using guitar, effects, and layered recordings. Repetition, interruption, and shifts in structure connect his musical and visual practices.

Robert Fitterman is a New York-based poet and writer whose work draws on appropriation, found language, and the recontextualization of existing texts. His most recent book, *Creve Coeur* (Winter Editions, 2024), reworks William Carlos Williams's *Paterson* through the history and geography of suburban St. Louis. His collaborations with Killisch bring poetry into dialogue with sound and visual art, allowing words and music to retain their distinct forms.

Editorial text & editing: Parallel Text — Klaus Killisch × Vell