

Kraftwerk - Ralf und Florian (1973)

Written by bluesever

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01. *Elektrisches Roulette* – 4:19
02. *Tongebirge* – 2:50
03. *Kristallo* – 6:16
04. *Heimatklänge* – 3:40
05. *Tanzmusik* – 6:34
06. *Ananas Symphonie* – 13:52

Personnel:

- Ralf Hütter – vocals, keyboards, electronics, string instruments, drums and percussion
- Florian Schneider-Esleben – vocals, keyboards, electronics, string and wind instruments, percussion
- Konrad "Conny" Plank – sound engineer

Well this is more melodic and less experimental than their first two records. Electric piano, electronic percussion, guitar, violin, flute, synths and xylophone are some of the instruments they employ. So yes there is more of an organic sound here when compared to the albums that follow this one. I think it would be fair to say that this record is a bridge between their old sound and the new sound that would follow.

"Elektrisches Roulette" opens with sounds that pulse as well as some high frequency noises. A melody arrives before a minute. Great sound. Drums 1 1/2 minutes in with piano a minute later. The tempo picks up 3 minutes in. "Tongebirge" features flute and synth sounds that come and go. This is a spacey song that drifts along. It recalls earlier albums. I like it.

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"Kristallo" features an electronic beat with what sounds like processed piano. It settles right down before 5 minutes briefly before kicking back in even louder. "Heimatklänge" opens with some beautiful piano as waves of sound come in. Great tune. "Tanzmusik" is an uptempo and catchy song. Some hand claps late. "Ananas Symphonie" is the 14 minute closer. Harp-like sounds early with processed spoken words a minute in. An electronic soundscape takes over. It changes 2 minutes in to a pastoral, spacey climate. Nice. Another change 7 minutes in as we get an electronic beat with gentle guitar as the spacey winds blow.

Well this would be my second favourite KRAFTWERK album after their debut, although if we're counting Ralf and Florian's album under the name ORGANISATION I would rank IT second and this third. ---Mellotron Storm, progarchives.com

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