

talbot & denis genus





## **talbot & deru: genus. special edition cd. ant-zen act236 / dear oh dear records. oh!one**

special packaging: hardcover book-sleeve with linencovering & embossing + 20 page booklet  
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tracklist: transmutation 1-4, genus 1 & 2, the great tree of life 1 & 2, bardenas sun and moon [video], collection [video]

composed and produced by joby talbot & benjamin wynn.  
engineered by mark wyllie assisted by mike horner  
mastered by mike wells at mike wells mastering, san francisco  
video concept & direction: ravi deepres  
commissioned by the paris opera ballet with choreography by wayne mcgregor  
premiered at the palais garnier on october 28th 2007

released in collaboration with dear oh dear records. upc 821272205821

**genus** is an electro-acoustic score for wayne mcgregor's ballet of the same title, based on charles darwin's discovery of evolution. the musical composition in eight parts is a collaborative work between joby talbot and deru. talbot has a high profile as a film and tv composer. screen credits include cult television comedy series 'the league of gentlemen' and 'the hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy'. deru is benjamin wynn, an electronic music producer from los angeles. his music is best described as an amalgamation of hip-hop, electronica and idm. **genus** embodies a synergy and culmination of various musical influences. minimal music and 20th century compositional textures performed by a ten part choir and four string instruments establish a perfect symbiosis with deru's complex electronic patterns. indescribably beautiful and haunting, the music is delivered with intensity and artistry and can be enjoyed as a self-contained work, even if there is no opportunity to view the ballet. this cd edition including two video clips and an additional pdf document is limited to 100 copies and will be released in an outstanding hardcover book-sleeve packaging with embossed linencovering and 20page booklet.

**joby** talbot is a british composer. talbot studied composition at royal holloway and bedford new college under the guildhall school of music and drama under brian elias & simon bainbridge. following the success of his first major orchestral work 'luminescence', premiered by the bbc philharmonic, he has gone on to receive numerous commissions from organisations such as the bbc symphony orchestra, london sinfonietta and the bbc proms. unrestricted by genre, talbot has a high profile as a film and tv composer. screen credits include cult television comedy series 'the league of gentlemen', two silent films for the british film institute (hitchcock's 'the lodger' and evgeny bauer's 'the dying swan') and 'the hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy'. talbot was part of the creative team that produced the ballet 'chroma' for the royal ballet. the piece was choreographed by wayne mcgregor and performed to talbot's orchestral arrangements of music by the white stripes. he also wrote additional music for the ballet, as well as writing new arrangements for the royal opera house orchestra. the ballet would later win the 2007 laurence olivier award for best new dance production. subsequently, paris opera ballet has commissioned an electronic score from talbot for wayne mcgregor's newest work 'genus' for october 2007.

**deru** is benjamin wynn, an electronic musician from los angeles. his compositions find hip-hop and electronic music linking hands, while dipping more than a toe in the ambient and classical pools. previous releases on ghostly international, merck, mush, neo ouija, and delikatessen records and more have allowed him to cultivate a dedicated following. an accomplished sound designer and film-scorer with his company, the track team, he has been nominated for the mpse's golden reel award. deru's appreciation of art and architecture runs as deep as the basslines that support his thoughtfully constructed songs. with one eye on music technology innovations, one ear tuned to the strains of his musical forefathers and every remaining molecule dedicated to producing synthetic symphonies, deru is a creative force to be reckoned with.



## **genus**

we met three years ago, heard each other's music, & instantly decided to work together. the opportunity presented itself in the summer of 2007 when acclaimed choreographer wayne mcgregor asked us to create an electro-acoustic score for genus - his new work for the paris opera ballet based on darwin's discovery of evolution.

taking darwin's own words and a three part dramatic structure as our starting points, we decided to record a limited palate of acoustic components: a ten part choir made up of members of 'tenebrae' conducted by nigel short; and four string instruments - the duke quartet with louisa fuller as solo violinist.

we wanted to create a musical evolution of our own. disembodied voices emerge from the 'primordial soup' of a static field and gradually words start to form. the text for this movement is taken from the page of darwin's secret 'b' notebook on transmutation in which is recorded the exact moment when the idea of evolution was born. a simple annotated diagram has the words "i think..." added at the top of the page as if darwin suddenly realises the momentous significance of his discovery. it was to be another 22 years before he would publish his findings.

the music builds and coalesces with the introduction of rhythmic elements before reaching a crisis point where it fractures and collapses into the ambient sounds of the storm that raged outside the church where we were recording. there was just time to capture a magical performance by louisa fuller and the duke quartet before flood waters cascaded through the building's interior.

the final movement which merges the choir and quartet, and sets the passage from the origin of species where darwin finally revealed to the world his supreme achievement - the discovery of the mechanism by which life has covered the surface of the earth "with its ever-branching and beautiful ramifications".

joby talbot  
4th september 2008

### **joby talbot discography (excerpt):**

the dying swan, music for 1 to 7 players. 2002  
the league of gentlemen's apocalypse (original sound track). 2005  
the hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy (original sound track). 2005  
v.a.. once around the sun. 2005  
the path of miracles (commission from vocal group tenebrae). 2006

### **deru discography:**

pushing air. cd / lp. neo ouija. 2003  
pushing soil. 10". delikatessen records. 2004  
trying to remember. cd / 12". merck. 2004  
say goodbye to useless. cd / lp. mush records. 2009

joby talbot official website: [www.jobyタルbot.com](http://www.jobyタルbot.com)  
deru website: [www.deru.la](http://www.deru.la)  
for information about the ballet please visit: [www.operadeparis.fr](http://www.operadeparis.fr) & [www.randomdance.org](http://www.randomdance.org)

### **ant-zen. audio & visual arts**

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