**Ralf Weihrauch**

Ralf Weihrauch`s new CD „Alles tot im Bauernhimmel“ has been the logical step of a long musical development,

This development started in the mid 1970s, when Ralf Weihrauch played a support slot for a local Folkband. A tape with music of The Dubliner rose his interest in folk music these days and let him become an enthusiast.

For quite a while he played Bodhran and Accordeon in German Irish-Folkbands until he met the English Legend Peter Bellamy and organized a tour for him. Until the end of the 90s Ralf Weihrauch worked as an agent for Folk-, Ska, Reggae and Punk-Bands. Especially in the folk-field he kept an eye not only on new developments but traditional music as well. Weihrauch brought over The Oyster Band, The Barely Works and Edward II to Germany long before their English fame had reached Germany at all. Martin Carthy and June Tabor amongst the more traditional artists he worked for. He organized Tours for Peter & The Test Tube Babes, The Selecter and The Meteors, and of course for The Whisky Priests in their heydays.

In 2002 Ralf Weihrauch entered the stage again. With his accordion he played Irish Pubs and little cafes, where he played the Irish standards bunt also unknown material as well. In 2003 he joined the Irish Party Band Crashandoh, he still plays a regular series of gigs. In 2005 Weihrauch played a tour through Germany, Austria and Italy with Gary Miller of the Whisky Priests.

Since Autumn 2018 Ralf Weihrauch is a member of The Whisky Priests as well. He joined English Folk-Punk-Heroes for the Reunion Tour through Europe and will be playing on their 35 Years Jubilee tour in 2020.

At his solo work he still concentrated on the unusual stuff. The first album “Not the bleeding obvious” (2005) still was very traditional. For “Hole in One“ (2008) he invited the German Reggae and Ska-Icon dr. Ring Ding for a Rap on The Unfortunate Tailor and arranged an Irish Tune as an American Polka. On “Green Break” (Ralf Weihrauch Trio, 2012) the listener finds Jazz-Arrangements, Reggae-Rhythms and an electro arrangement of “Lyke Wake Dirge”.

Those arrangements were a sort of fundament for “Alles tot im Bauernhimmel”. Whilst setting up his own studio, the interest in German Folksong rose. So it was obvious combining both fields. It almost took two years to finish the album. Ralf Weihrauch not only had to dive into the world of electronic production, but also ploughed through old German Books to find songs, to arrange them and to edit them.

The development has not come to an end, yet and leaves many doors open to further possibilities.

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