



JUST LISTEN, 8 ENSEMBLES IN 1 BIT

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Breno Virícimo Group  
Thomas & Eva  
The Pipays  
Kobra Ensemble  
Merel Vercammen & Ketevan Roinishvili  
De Gebroeders Harteveld & Fretz  
New Amsterdam Voices  
Odd Pearls

## INTRODUCTION

'Recording in DSD' is not a term musicians are generally familiar with. As a matter of fact, none of the musicians we asked to participate had the slightest idea what it was at first! Surprisingly, without exception, all immediately said yes and were very keen to learn about it. Especially on the recording days, March 4th and 5th 2015, they soon learned what it's like to record acoustically in DSD: "Hey you, cellist, a little closer to the mics please" and "Could the saxophone player take two steps back and one to the right?". With the microphones spread around above their heads and the prospect of no post recording mixing at all, the sound balancing had to be made right there and then at the recording session.

Once the musicians and engineers were happy with the balance, the recording began. Not only audio, but also visual! Jonas Sacks filmed each take of each ensemble, dancing fluidly around the musicians. This way, when the best take was chosen, we would always have a '1 take' video to go with the '1 take' DSD audio!

Seeing the expression on the faces of the musicians when they listened to themselves in DSD for the first time in the studio proved that Native DSD had organized something quite special. Most of them immediately shouted out in excitement: "We are playing right here in this room for ourselves to listen to!" A few others closed their eyes, made no sound and sat totally still apart from the occasional jaw drop.

Well, that brings us to the point of why we did this. We are spreading the message of what the incredible DSD recording technique can deliver. At the same time, we are enriching the libraries of music fans with the music of some of the most promising Dutch musicians who would otherwise not have been recorded in DSD.

We intent to flabbergast the musicians as well as our Native DSD customers by facilitating a one-off chance to record - and listen to them - in DSD. And who knows, perhaps the next step will be to record a complete album with the most popular ensemble? Or we can go to other places and do the same? One thing is for sure: Native DSD will keep exploring the 'beyond' part of our "DSD and Beyond" mission!

We hope you will enjoy the repertoire, interpretations & audio quality of "8 Ensembles in 1 Bit" as an attempt of a holy musical trinity provided by the musicians, recording technique and your playback equipment.

The Native DSD Team

*PS. Feel free to let us know what you think of this project and/or about ideas for future recordings by sending us an e-mail to: [info@nativedsd.com](mailto:info@nativedsd.com)*

## **NEW POSSIBILITIES BY RECORDINGS IN DSD 256FS**

*Producer/Engineers Jared Sacks and Daan van Aalst have pooled their extensive expertise in music production and recording in very high resolution audio. Their goal is to put together the best system for recording and reproducing music at the highest quality with recordings in the new DSD 256fs (quad rate DSD) format.*

## **MCO STUDIO 2**

The process starts with the recording studio – The Dutch Music Center for Broadcast (MCO) Studio 2 in Hilversum. This is the oldest recording studio of the Netherlands. It was originally built for recording and broadcasting live concerts on radio. Knowing that the studio has recorded many historical ensembles through the years, we found it fitting to be the first setting for this series of original recordings of talented musicians in the highest quality. We wanted a varied spectrum of music to be represented on this initial album so that there is something for everyone.

## **STEREO MICROPHONES**

The main microphones (for Stereo) are a pair of Bruel and Kjaer (B&K) 4006 which have been rebuilt to accept 75 volt Phantom Powering directly from the stage. In between this pair of microphones we have a Sennheiser MK8 and a B&K 4006 coupled together to give us sound recorded using the M/S technique.

## **MULTICHANNEL SETUP**

The M/S Omni output from the front pair of B&K 4006 microphones is also being used as the center channel for the multichannel tracks. The center and surround microphones (also B&K 4006) complete the microphone set.

## **ANALOG MIXER AND HORUS CONVERTER**

All tracks (2 Channel Stereo and 5 Channel Multichannel) are going through a custom made analog mixer and battery powered pre amplifiers – designed and made by Rens Heijnis, a famed audio designer in Europe. The mixer and amps are connected to the Merging

Technologies Horus Analog to Digital Converter (ADC) running at DSD 256fs. The microphone's interconnect cables are connected to the Horus with 3T carbon cable made by Van den Hul. It is an excellent interconnect cable for recording providing us with the best sound.

## **LISTENING AND MIXING**

For listening, we are using the LS1 speakers made by Grimm Audio of Holland. We added a small amount of ambience during the analog mixing stage with the use of the M7 reverb made by Bricasti. To create the right musical balance without electronics, the musicians have had to adjust their physical distance to the microphones. After having played and/or sung the tracks a number of times, after which, no editing was done.

## **MUSIC IN DSD 256FS, DSD 128FS AND DSD 64FS**

The music on 8 Ensembles in 1 Bit is being provided in both Stereo and Multichannel sound in the recorded resolution – DSD 256fs (quad rate DSD). Listeners with DSD 256fs systems you will enjoy hearing the music exactly as it was recorded. We know that many listeners do not own DSD 256fs converters and players today. Tom Caulfield, the Mastering Engineer at Native DSD used specially developed software from Jussi Laako (the maker of the Signalyst HQ Player software player) for the conversion from DSD 256fs to DSD 128fs and DSD 64fs.

## **ADDING METADATA AND UPLOADING THE FILES FOR YOU**

Once the three sets of Stereo and Multichannel DSD files were completed, the tracks were then converted from the DFF to the DSF file format. This enables Native DSD to add metadata to the recorded tracks. Finally the DSF tracks, cover art and album booklet in Acrobat PDF format are uploaded to our server where they can be purchased and downloaded for your musical enjoyment. We hope this brief overview provides some insight into how we recorded the music on the new 8 Ensembles in 1 Bit album. We think you will really love what we heard in the recording studio – and you are about to hear at home.

*Jared Sacks Producer / Recording Engineer – Channel Classics Records*

*Daan van Aalst Producer / Recording Engineer – Navis Classics*

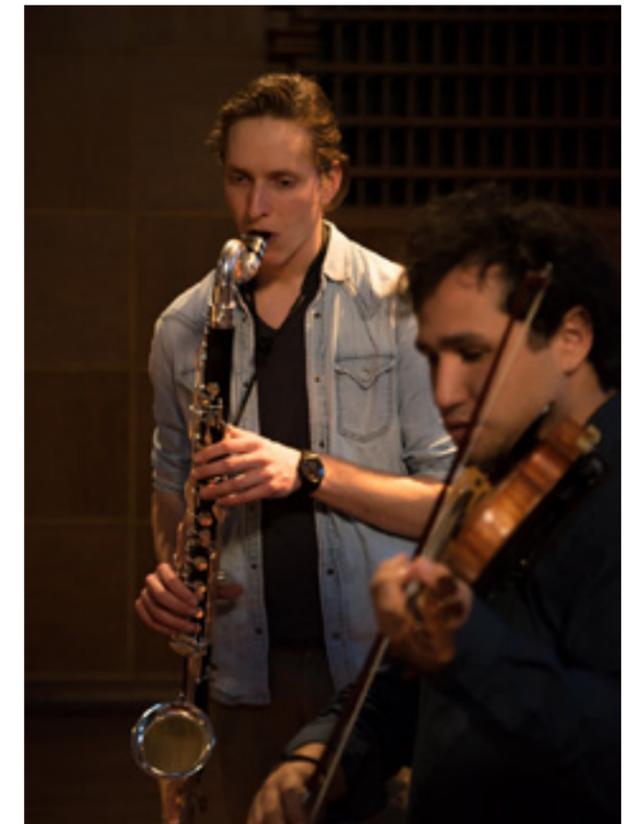
#### BRENO VIRÍCIMO GROUP

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*Breno Virícimo (1988) is a bassist, guitarist and composer.*

Born in the southern region of Brazil (Santa Catarina), he started learning Brazilian songs on guitar at the age of 12. After two years he joined his father's band playing the bass guitar. After working as a musician for three years in São Paulo, he moved to Europe to study at the Music Conservatory of Amsterdam (2009-2015). During his studies, he was invited to work as Head of the Bass Department at the True School of Music in India. In 2015, Breno moved back to The Netherlands to continue his career as a performer. His main influences are Brazilian music, jazz and pop music.

At the moment Breno is working with the singer songwriter Michael Prins (on bass guitar), YesSister JazzSister (on double bass), ReSamba (acoustic guitar) and with his own band.





#### THOMAS & EVA

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*The duo Thomas & Eva consists of young talented musicians from Amsterdam.*

Jazz singer Eva Scholten (1986) completed her studies at the Jazz department of the Amsterdam Conservatory in 2010 and is

active in a vocal-harmony group called YesSister, JazzSister.

Thomas Baggerman (1988) is a self-taught gypsy jazz guitar player who started out playing with his own trio in that same year. Crossing paths in 2012 with the formation of their quartet called Eva sur Seine, their musical connection was evident from the first note. A musical love at first sight that only rarely happens.



#### THE PIPAYS

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*Husband and wife duo The Pipays consists of Floor van der Holst-Murray (vocals) and David Jay Murray (double bass).*

They started working together in Sydney, Australia, but made the big jump to The Netherlands early 2014.

They specialize in funk and blues driven jazz, encompassing standards and original compositions. Add a piano, live vocal processing and a bit of hand percussion and this duo becomes a funkafied two-person band with a nod towards reggae and hip-hop. In their other lives David is a classical double bass player and Floor is the Label Manager at Channel Classics Records and the Marketing Director at Native DSD.



#### KOBRA ENSEMBLE

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*The Amsterdam-based Kobra Ensemble consists of Ingrid Doude van Troostwijk, Lea Klarenbeek, Lonneke Kegels, Sterre Konijn, Pitou Nicolaes and Saskia Voorbach.*

They first met in the Netherlands Youth Choir, but since their kick-off in 2010 the Kobra's have developed a unique style of a capella singing. They have their roots in classical singing and share the love for a large variety of musical genres.

Their concerts offer a mix of early and contemporary classical works, folk music arrangements and close harmony, combining the beauty of the repertoire with humor and a theatrical performance.

Kobra is always searching for new audiences at unexpected places. The singers often perform at the main Dutch concert halls, but also at student events, cultural debates and various festivals.



#### MEREL VERCAMMEN & KETEVAN ROINISHVILI

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*The Dutch violinist Merel Vercammen won a first prize at the Dutch National Competition for Young Music Talent and completed her studies at the Royal College of Music in London*

with the highest distinction in the summer of 2014. Merel also completed a MSc in Music Cognition in London. She plays in trio42 and the Mirovia Quartet together with cellist Ketevan Roinishvili.

Ketevan was born in Georgia and finished her studies at the

Conservatorium of Amsterdam with the distinction 'cum laude' in 2014. She was finalist in the Dutch Classical Talent competition and in the past she has won prizes at the Georgian National Competition and Servais International Competition.

## DE GEBROEDERS HARTEVELD & FRETZ

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*Marcel Harteveld (1984) & Johan Fretz (1985) form the duo named 'Gebroeders Harteveld & Fretz' (Brothers Harteveld & Fretz).*

At the Amsterdam School of the Arts they decided to start making shows together. Since then, they have made theater tours and EP's of the show 'Onderweg' (On The Way). Music and stories flow in unique ways whilst they let humor, silence and rock 'n roll clash.

Johan and Marcel also traveled around the world for the NCRV television show 'On Air'. Marcel is the face of the Fisherman's Friends commercials and Johan writes politically spiced books about cuts in the arts budget and his future presidency.



## ODD PEARLS

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*One and a half years ago Judith Steenbrink (baroque violin) and Tineke Steenbrink (organ) started to collaborate with composer/trumpeter Diederik Rijpstra. Odd Pearls was born.*

Rijpstra was digging in the world of baroque where Judith and Tineke live in. He listened to their music, made them improvise, interviewed them and used those interviews in some of his pieces. The result is extraordinary, adventurous and magical: a show of new music with a 7-piece ensemble. With the use of church organ, strings, electronics, percussion and trumpet, Odd Pearls creates a tiny, filmic, exciting and bombastic musical palette. Lightning, the space they perform in, the placement and size of the ensemble are important to leave the audience with a magical experience.





## NEW AMSTERDAM VOICES

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*New Amsterdam Voices; an a cappella septet from Amsterdam.*

With their refreshing mix of jazz and pop music they create a novel sound captivating from start to finish. June Fermie, Vera Buijink, Marieke Smit, Minka Bodemann, Hebe Vrijhof, Pepijn van der Sande and Willem de Beer met each other while studying at the Jazz Department of the Conservatory of Music in Amsterdam. Maartje Meijer is their arranger, producer and pianist.

Since 2011, New Amsterdam Voices have performed at numerous venues across The Netherlands. In 2013 they contributed to Maartje Meijer's debut album, 'Virgo', which was released at the Bimhuis in Amsterdam. Spring 2015 they released their own debut EP.



## COLOPHON

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*Production*, Native DSD Music v.o.f.

*Producer*, Jared Sacks

*Recording engineers*, Daan van Aalst, Jared Sacks

*Assistant engineer*, Ernst Coutinho, Guido Nieuw-  
worp

*Video production*, Jonas Sacks, Ernst Coutinho,  
Floor van der Holst

*Movi camera system operator*, Ben de Graaf

*Additional camera operator*, Ype Poortinga

*Photography*, Jonas Sacks

*Design*, Fernand et Firmin Studio

*Liner notes*, Floor van der Holst, Jonas Sacks

*Recording location*, Muziek Centrum voor de  
Omroep

*Recording date*, March, 2015

*Technical information*,  
Microphones : Brüel & Kjaer 4006, Schoeps  
Digital converter : Horus by Merging Technologies  
Workstation : Pyramix by Merging Technologies  
Mixing board: Rens Heijnis, custom design

*Speakers*, Grimm LS1 Digital Speaker System

*Cables*, Van den Hul, 3T

*Special thanks to*, Frans de Rond

## TRACK LIST

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### TRACK 1

#### Odd Pearls

*Diederik Rijpstra — trompet, Judith Steenbrink — violin, Tineke Steenbrink — orgel*

*“Empty Space, Sans Parole”–Diederik Rijpstra*

03:11

<http://www.oddpearlsmusic.com/>

### TRACK 2

#### Kobra Ensemble

*Lea Klarenbeek, Sterre Konijn, Saskia Voorbach, Pitou Nicolaes,*

*Lonneke Kegels, Ingrid Doude van Troostwijk*

*“Summer Rain”–Anna Ternheim*

03:17

<http://www.kobraensemble.nl/>

### TRACK 3

#### Breno Viricimo Group

*Federico Nathán — Violin, Bruno van der Haegen — Tenor*

*Saxophone and Bass Clarinet, Daniel de Moraes — Acoustic Guitar,*

*Udo Demandt — Drums, Viricimo — Double Bass*

*“Samba de Rei” — Pingarilho e Vasconcellos*

03:26

<https://www.youtube.com/user/brenojs>

### TRACK 4

#### New Amsterdam Voices

*June Fermie, Vera Buijink, Marieke Smit, Minka Bodemann, Hebe*

*Vrijhof, Pepijn van der Sande, Willem de Beer*

*“Short People”–words & music by Randy Newman (arranged by*

*Maartje Meijer)*

02:49

<http://www.newamsterdamvoices.com/>

### TRACK 5

#### Thomas & Eva

*Eva Scholten — voice, Thomas Baggerman — guitar*

*“Early Autumn”–Ralph Burns and Woody Herman with lyrics by*

*Johnny Mercer*

02:47

<http://www.evasurseine.com/>

### TRACK 6

#### De Gebroeders Harteveld & Fretz

*Marcel Harteveld, Johan Fretz, David Middelhoff — guitar*

*“Barcelona” – Music by Marcel Harteveld, Words by Johan Fretz*

03:12

[www.harteveldenfretz.nl](http://www.harteveldenfretz.nl)

### TRACK 7

#### Merel Vercammen & Ketevan Roinishvili

*Merel Vercammen — violin & Ketevan Roinishvili — cello*

*“Sonata for violin and cello, Allegro” – Maurice Ravel*

04:55

<http://merelvercammen.nl/>

<http://ketevanroinishvili.com/>

### TRACK 8

#### Kobra Ensemble

*Lea Klarenbeek, Sterre Konijn, Saskia Voorbach, Pitou Nicolaes,*

*Lonneke Kegels, Ingrid Doude van Troostwijk*

*“Emoni Ennen”–Värttinä*

02:43

<http://www.kobraensemble.nl/>

### TRACK 9

#### New Amsterdam Voices

*June Fermie, Vera Buijink, Marieke Smit, Minka Bodemann, Hebe*

*Vrijhof, Pepijn van der Sande, Willem de Beer*

*“Old Man River”–words & music by Jerome Kern and Oscar*

*Hammerstein II, based on the arrangement performed by The Beach*

*Boys (arranged by Maartje Meijer)*

02:59

<http://www.newamsterdamvoices.com/>

### TRACK 10

#### Merel Vercammen & Ketevan Roinishvili

*Merel Vercammen — violin & Ketevan Roinishvili — cello*

*“Sonata for violin and cello, Très vif” – Maurice Ravel*

03:29

<http://merelvercammen.nl/>

<http://ketevanroinishvili.com/>

### TRACK 11

#### Breno Viricimo Group

*Federico Nathán–Violin*

*Bruno van der Haegen — Tenor Saxophone and Bass Clarinet,*

*Daniel de Moraes — Acoustic Guitar, Udo Demandt — Drums, Breno*

*Viricimo — Double Bass*

*–Quinteto Para Instrumentos de Sopra I. Allegro – Mário Tavares*

03:33

<https://www.youtube.com/user/brenojs>

### TRACK 12

#### The Pipays

*Floor van der Holst — voice, David Jay Murray — double bass*

*“Jellyfish” – Floor van der Holst*

02:46

<http://floorvanderholst.com/>