

IZC – Zig-Zag EP (DISKO-606)

» Packing his track with melting synth patterns, recurring sounds of demonic chimes, and viciously shuffling percussion, Viennese producer IZC proves he is not afraid to explore strange sounds with “Untitled,” a cut from his analog-centric Zig Zag EP. The loosely constructed production consistently evokes tension and a relentless feeling of dread, effectively showing off the artist’s capabilities in forging dark, ominous atmospheres. Before it drops in digital formats on April 21, the rest of IZC’s Zig Zag EP can be streamed in full after the jump. «

[\(Derek Kaneko, XLR8R\)](#)

» Release-of-the-month however, has to go to this 4 track EP from Viennese producer IZC. Mixing up influences from Techno, UK Funky, Detroit House and more, ‘Zig Zag’ delves into a world of killer sub hits, cold Grime rhythms and colder-still synth work. The title track acts as a highly accomplished and disorientating 4/4 heater, whilst the tension and immediacy of tracks like ‘Untitled’ and ‘Strings 2129’ are ready built for the dance. Add to that the slightest of warmth brought to proceedings via a stripped down hardware set-up, and you’ve got yourself something special for the heads-down camp. «

[\(Louis Cook, Hyponik.com\)](#)

» Austrian label disko404 get the honour of this latest release from dark techno producer IZC, his fifth EP since he debuted back on Dubsquare in 2008. He seems to get more malevolent with each record and this latest is pitch black, with cold, synth-driven dubstep on ‘Strings 2129’, an unnerving blend of 8-bit chips and drum ‘n’ bass on ‘Quizzical’ and queasy, crevasse-deep house on the title track. Guaranteed to test the mettle of your sound system, ‘Zig-Zag’ is a shot of future darkness that makes the chrome and smoke of Blade Runner seem like a tanning salon. «

[\(Bleep.com\)](#)

» ‘Zig-Zag’ starts off straightforwardly enough, but it’s a much weirder track than one might initially give IZC credit. Its beat grows more jerky and erratic while its weird detuned synth bobs to and fro without any bassline, sort of a mutant techno that owes as much to the off-kilter tinkering of Mark Fell as it does to the dancefloor. It’s almost like an improvised sketch more than a polished track, but it all works surprisingly well. “Strings 2129” has a staggered kick/clap combo that feels aligned with UK funky with a touch of halfbeat, but otherwise it feels like a slightly dark, slinky stripped down techno cut. “Quizzical” splits the difference between those sounds and more traditional, classic electro in its sonic palette, a sparse arrangement of pitched claps, low-end sub bass, techy blips and sawtooth stabs.

My favorite might be “Untitled,” the last of the four cuts. Its sparse arrangement, consisting primarily of syncopated hihats and deep sub bass booms and wobbly synth attack zaps and tuneless falls, is strangely compelling even after a more traditional rhythm section falls in place halfway through. There’s something just “off” about each of these cuts that makes it inherently lovable, like oddball studio outtakes or sketches that are imperfect and unique. Highly recommended for adventurous DJs or fans of leftfield dance music. «

[\(Earinfluxion.com\)](#)

» Earlier this month Viennese label Disko404 dropped its fifth release from hometown producer IZC, which is available digitally this week. The four-track ‘Zig Zag’ EP features a selection of raw, off the grid hardware productions that lurches between off-kilter techno and gnarled grime while maintaining a bleary-eyed swagger throughout.

Utilising a severely stripped back palette of sounds across the EP, IZC’s productions are uncompromising in their approach. On the A side, the titular track offsets a twisted, stuttering rhythm against a woozy arc of synths to disorienting and hypnotic effect. On the flip, IZC then takes this intensity and applies it to the taut grime structures of ‘Strings 2129’ and ‘Quizzical’.

Finishing with digital-only bonus track 'Untitled', IZC lays out a sprawling spray of etherised synths over skeletal percussion that forms in fits and starts to relieve the building tension. You can grab a free download of 'Untitled' via XLR8R and the full EP is available from all the usual places. «

([Sam Elsewhere, Liminalsounds.com](#))

» 7.5/10. The Austrian producer IZC has been on the scene a lot longer than is at first apparent, reportedly toiling away in his Vienna home for a couple of decades now. But his 'Zig Zag EP' for the disko404 label sounds very much where a lot of producers are at currently – or to be a bit more transparent: one track Detroit tech, one track minor strung grime and one track reinforced, toughened funky. 'Quizzical' is the tip though. «

([DJ Mag, May 2014](#))

» Auch in Wien wird weiter am Nachlass von Dubstep gearbeitet. IZC, bekannt als Inhaber von Dubsquare Records, berträgt auf der "Zig-Zag EP" den Vibe von Grime auf ein Dubstep-Gerüst und schießt bei dem titelgebenden Track auch etwas in die Detroit House-Ecke. Stoisch klappert Metall auf Metall, doch nach einer Weile laufen die Hi-Hats eigenwillig in eine andere Richtung und sorgen für Verschiebungen in der Wahrnehmung. "Strings 2129" und "Quizzical" spielen beide ebenfalls mit synkopierten Claps'n'Chaps. Die ganze Platte ist zwischen den Stühlen plaziert und bekam deswegen auch Support von so unterschiedlichen DJs wie Scratcha DVA oder Henning Baer «

([Groove Magazine, May 2014](#))