## Philipp Pluhar a.k.a. dr.pheel

Born 1977 in Graz, Austria, he made his first steps as a drummer during high school – including school bands and gigs. After graduating in 1995, his passion for drumming became more and more serious and during the time of his civil service in 1996/97, it lead him to be a professional drummer, making a living from it already from those early days on.

In 1996 he participated in Alex Deutsch's workshop "JUNK", where the evening sessions between students and teachers were especially exciting for him – his powerful and raw drumming style even impressed teachers like Delmar Brown and Doug Wimbish, and as a result, **Delmar Brown** invited him to play with his **World Pop Experience** at the 1997 Montreux Jazz Festival.

In the same year he won the Styrian Bandcontest "Newcomer" with his band *Supernova* (a.o. with Gregor Schenker and Monica Reyes) and the production of his first CD "Plastikland" followed soon after.

From then on the density of projects increased:

- \* with the band *Die Geilen Schweine*, an improvisation groove project, that had a steady gig over three years (twice a month), he started experimenting with electronics and loops. Especially playing with bass player Wolfram "Woofy" Abt had a big musical impact on him.
- \* with *deishovida*, a band playing a very unique mixture of folk, klezmer, balkan-sound and pop, he performed concerts all over Europe and as part of a cultural exchange program he toured in Uganda two times and with the ugandan band The Big Five two times in Austria, performing a combined show.

2004 he founded the band *MONK* together with his very good friends Susanna Sawoff and Georg Hartwig. This band's music reveals its qualities at first sight, though not necessarily in form of commercial hits. The credo of MONK is quality, not quantity – independence, not restraint – sharing love, also for music.

With *Bloc Business*, a live house project, in which he pursued his affection for club music and playing alongside computer generated beats, he toured China in 2005, followed by the CD production "Pandora's Box" which due to the break up of the band never got officially released.

During all this he had been regularly involved in productions of the *Vereinigte Bühnen Graz* (theatre and opera in Graz):

- \* "Das Pulverfass" (2001) at the Schauspielhaus Graz (staging by Dimiter Gotscheff, musical director Sandy Lopicic) touring Europe in the following years.
- \* "Godspell" (1998) at the Next Liberty.
- \* Children's musical productions at the Next Liberty (Snoopy, Ikarus, Till Eulenspiegel, Cinderella, In 80 Tagen um die Welt, Das Gespenst von Canterville a.o.)
- , "Messiah" (2010) a dance play by Darrel Toulon based on G.F.Händel at the Oper Graz

2008 he founded *Sawoff Shotgun* together with Georg Hartwig and Susanna Sawoff plus her two remaining sisters Sonia Sawoff and Monica Reyes. Known as a trash pop band with riot grrrls attitude, the formation developed to be internationally heard, both live as well as on radio.

2009 he played the drums on *DJ Vadim*'s Single "Hidden Treasure" on the album "Can't Lurn Imagination", a year earlier he started the band *Stevies Wonder Glasses*, together with Mr.Dero, Farina Miss and Klumzy Tung, a symbiosis of DJ line and live band. Apart from regular shows at the legendary Butterbar in Graz, they also performed in the UK and Germany.

2009 he also started playing with the electro band *Phonix* providing the right beat for their live shows.

*Air Rapide*, a two-man-band made out of didjeridoo and drums, creating an organic club sound, somewhere between techno and drum'n'bass, does without samples, loops and electronic support. Live and on CD since 2009.

The musical bandwith rounds out in the *Monica Reyes Band* – wienerlied (special viennese songwriting) goes bossa nova - chanson spiced with a pinch of cheeky honesty, always wearing this disarming smile.