

# shareholder tom emotional value

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## SHAREHOLDER TOM

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**»emotional value« combines American soul and reggae, Hip Hop, African root music, and European melancholy pop in a wonderful and extraordinary way. The album features the harmonious cooperation of musicians from five countries and three continents. Except for Londoner Travis Blaque, all others live in Germany and provide living proof of how wonderfully complex and diverse a country it is today.**

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'shareholder tom' is the latest music project from Cologne's music producer and multi-talented musician Thomas Berghaus. His previous project, 'Family Vision Care', produced the album 'Careful' in cooperation with New York-born singer Gary Harrison in March of 2008 for the Unique Records label. Southern Germany's daily paper 'Die Süddeutsche Zeitung' summarised his effort: "When Arthur Conley poured all the passion of soul into his hit single 'Sweet Soul Music' in 1967, nobody could have known that a certain multi-talented musician by the name of Thomas Berghaus in Cologne would be able to take this passion, and revitalise it in the here and now ...". Berghaus received much deserved recognition for the album – most of it however from abroad. Soul music is no easy topic in Germany – a fact which Berghaus is well aware of from his work as chief editor of the soul magazine 'uptown strut', publisher of music books in his own publishing house 'Büro.9', and his monthly radio show on 'soulsender.de', where he acts as both moderator and DJ.

At the time of 'Family Vision Care', Berghaus was looking for opportunities to do some work with various guest singers from other genres as well. He particularly enjoys experimenting with bringing together his own foundations of soul, jazz and funk with closely related genres, like reggae, afro-beat, hip hop or even German indie-pop. Today, Berghaus produces his music in his own studio in Cologne, which provides him with the freedom to keep working on his material until he feels it is ready.

In January 2009, Berghaus released his first 'shareholder tom' single, featuring female vocalist 'Fijori'. Rita Gabir, aka 'Fijori', who now lives near Munich, was born in Eritrea (East Africa), and came to Germany at the age of four. Her debut 'Single Warrior' initially only came out on vinyl with a mere 500 copies on the Soulplex Recordings label in Cologne. For the single's B side remix, Berghaus managed to recruit the Dutch afro-beat producers 'AIFF (Afro influenced Funk Federation)'. 'AIFF' consists of Ton van der Kolk and Timothy van der Holst, known in particular for their cooperation in many projects for instance with 'Jazzinvaders', 'Soul Snatchers' and 'Laura Vane & the Vipertones'. The two also operate their own label Social Beats.

The 'shareholder tom' album »emotional value«, which is published as a joint venture with Souplex Recordings on Berghaus' own label 'Büro.9 Music', mainly concentrates on the synthesis of various genres in a variety of ways, and 'Fijori' is also featured in an additional five tracks on the album.

Berghaus originally got acquainted with Londoner MC Travis Blaque via the Düsseldorf-based label 'Unique Records,' where he had already published an album – just like Berghaus himself. Travis Blaque is somewhat of a veteran of the UK rap scene, and made his mark in the nineties with 'Quiet-Boyz-Kollabos', releases on 'Acid Jazz' and Herbaliser features. Blaque is featured on »emotional value« on the tracks 'The Promise' and 'Lisa'.

The piece 'Work on you' was written by Cologne-based jazz singer Alison Degbe, who also recorded the vocals for this track. Alison Degbe's history includes having been a support act for the 'King of Soul' himself, the late James Brown, as well as a backing singer at gigs with megastars like Lionel Richie, Gwen McCrae and Grace Jones.

The album's closing track, 'Wer all die Chancen verschenkt' marks a double debut: it is the very first text Berghaus wrote himself, and it is also the first time in his career that he has ventured a German language song. He recruited an old friend for these very special vocals: soul singer 'J-bee' – she is based in Cologne and originally hails from Armenia.

#### TRACKLIST:

01. Hagos (feat. Fijori), 02. The Promise (feat. Travis Blaque), 03. Single Warrior (feat. Fijori), 04. Work on you (feat. Alison Degbe), 05. Goodbye (feat Fijori), 06. Lisa (feat. Traves Blaque), 07. Ab hūko lilo (feat. Fijori), 08. Single Warrior (AIFX RMX), 09. Push away the clouds (feat. Fijori), 10. South to West (feat. Fijori), 11. Wer all die Chancen verschenkt (feat. J-bee)

#### LINKS:

[www.shareholdertom.de](http://www.shareholdertom.de)

[www.myspace.com/shareholdertom](http://www.myspace.com/shareholdertom)

[twitter.com/shareholdertom](https://twitter.com/shareholdertom)



Here are some quotes from international Radio DJs about »emotional value«:

„Great musical versatile album full of warm vibes for the summer Will playlist „the promise“ on the radio“  
(Laurent Garnier, legendary Techno/House/Electro DJ, Paris, France)

„Beautiful production & a number of trax that will grace any lounge set... simply luv Fijori's voice... world music that escapes the cliches & reveals a real fusion of cultures...“

(DJ Pheel, Sao Paulo, Brazil)

„This is definitely different. it gave a feel good vibe. peaceful, soulful...this is almost like some type of experience....i'm loving it.“

(DJ KING JAMES WHCR - 90.3FM Radio, New York, USA)

„Love »Work on you feat. Alision Degbe« just right for my radio shows“

(Gary Spence Solarradio, Soulchoonz, London, UK)

„Like the funky feeling...AIFF remix does it very good!“

(Gianluca Pighi, Mint Condition Records, Italy)

„Really feeling this one. Single Warrior was one of my favorite songs when it came out. Full support“

(Angel Mishev, Groovy Sessions, Sofia, Bulgaria)

„Lovely Album! Highly succeeded! Quality music for any occasion.“

(Sosue, Soukplex Radioshow/Raw Artistic Records, Cologne, Germany)

„nice work, »Push away the clouds« is great!“

(Kaori, SHIbuya FM Radio, Tokyo, Japan)

„Enjoyed both the original & remix of Single Warrior, plus Work On You. Will play these 2 for sure.“

(Kerem Gokmen, WYEP, Pittsburgh, USA)

„Though some of the music styles do not float my boat – I love Fijori's voice!“

(Marky Mark, Starpoint Radio, London, UK)

„i like the whole album, great work esp single warrior“

(Andre Harris, Innate Soul digital, Chicago, USA)

„These are really nice tunes. I dig it and are surely to be supported in my set tommorow“

(Rick Groove, AuditoryDesigns, Copenhagen, Denmark)

DISTRIBUTOR:

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