

Arandel

InBach



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8 Electronic music has always enjoyed a close relationship to classical composition. After Léon Theremin created his revolutionary namesake instrument in the 1920s, it was popularized by virtuoso Clara Rockmore, who played it as expertly as a violin in her renditions of Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Ravel and the like. In 1968, [Wendy Carlos](#) released [Switched-On Bach](#), an album of tunes by Johann Sebastian Bach created on a Moog synthesizer that went on to become the first gold record in electronic music history, and eventually the second-ever classical album to earn platinum sales status. Even today, when you look at popular neoclassical composers like [Nils Frahm](#) and [Ólafur Arnalds](#), synths are typically a featured part of their ensembles.

Continuing the traditional genre blend, the inspiration for *InBach* by anonymous French electro acoustic techno project Arandel can be clearly traced. Following the commission of a half-hour piece presented at the 2017 Nuit Blanche Festival, which highlighted the obscure recordings and unique instrumentation housed at the Musée de la Musique in Paris, Arandel performed a hybrid DJ set at Cite de la Musique Hall that was based on Carlos's seminal work.

With all of that experience and access in hand, *InBach* sees Arandel channelling some of the finest moments from Bach's classical repertoire through instrumentation from the Musée de la Musique, collaborations with the likes of [Ben Shemie](#), [Petra Haden](#), Areski, and Vanessa Wagner, and their own dedication to analogue synths without MIDI or samplers.

For every breath of the organic, like the plaintive reverberant piano of "Sonatina" or the string-laden [Blonde Redhead](#)-like dirge-rock of "Bluette," there are exhalations of experimental rave tokes like the simmering main stage arpeggios of "Prelude No 2 in C Minor" or the deep house circus vibe of "Passacaglia." *InBach* is as innovative as it is familiar, a work of unerring thoughtfulness, timeless beauty and astonishing joy. ([InFiné Music](#))