



## MONOLAKE



Monolake is an electronic music act based in Berlin. Originally consisting of members Gerhard Behles and Robert Henke, Monolake is now perpetuated by Henke while Behles focuses on running music software company Ableton, which they founded in 1999 together with Bernd Roggendorf. In fall 2004, Torsten Pröfrock became a member of Monolake.

Monolake's minimal, dub-influenced techno music helped establish the sound of the Chain Reaction label, also located in Berlin, subsequently using their own [ml/i] (Monolake / Imbalance Computer Music) label for the group's output. Both current



members have solo projects, with Henke releasing under his own name and Pröfrock as "T++" and "Various Artists."

In 2008 T++ followed Ricardo Villalobos in bridging the gap between minimal techno and dubstep, by remixing Shackleton's Death Is Not Final for the Skull Disco label.

In 2009, Robert Henke appeared in the electronic music documentary Speaking In Code which presented the completion of the Monodeck. As of 2012, Henke has been designing a new form of live show syncing surround-sound audio stems with visual loops, allowing for improvisation.

Monolake is named after Mono Lake, which is east of the Sierra Nevada in California.

#### Robert Henke's Monodeck II

Henke is a software engineer who develops custom software and hardware for live performances. As well as working as an engineer for Ableton, Henke designed the Atlantic Waves software for performing live with other producers in different countries simultaneously.[3]

In 2003, Henke designed the Monodeck, a midi-controller interface for spontaneous editing and effects work during live performances, even without having to look at the computer screen.[4] The Monodeck and its successor, Monodeck II, control Ableton Live through special software designed with Max/MSP.



**Robert Henke**, born in Munich, Germany, builds and operates machines to produce art.



Amazed and inspired by the constantly expanding possibilities of applied computer science and technology, Henke explores new territories between musical composition, performance and installation. Alongside diving deeply into aesthetic concepts, the creation of his own instruments and tools is an important and integral part of his artistic process.

His works are concerned with volume, power and impact, the tension between silence and noise, darkness and light, and about the exploration and manipulation of real and virtual spaces. They expose carefully shaped details and gradual changes of repeating structures in different time scales.

Henke is a pioneer of multichannel sound, using methods and systems like wave field synthesis and ambisonics to create situations of total immersion, expanding the sonic experience of his performances beyond of what can be reproduced at home.



During the last decade, Henke's artistic explorations more and more expanded from his initial focus on music towards the field of installation, both sound based and audio-visual. His installations, internet based audiovisual performances and concerts have been presented at Tate Modern London, the Centre Pompidou Paris, Le Lieu Unique Nantes, PS-1 New York, MUDAM Luxembourg, MAK Vienna and on countless festivals.

Henke's interest in the combination of art and technology is also evident in his contributions to the development of the music software 'Ableton Live'. Since Ableton's founding in 1999, he has been central to the development of Live, which became the standard tool for electronic music production and completely redefined the performance practice of electronic music.

He writes and lectures about sound and the creative use of computers, and holds a professorship in sound design at the Berlin University of Arts.

For 2013 he has been selected as Mohr Visiting Artist at the music department of Stanford University, where he will be teaching a class in computer music composition and performance.