

LONGITAL - PRESS CLIPPINGS

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Title: Continental Drift - Eddie Cooney explores some of the fine music being made outside the UK. Passport, please
Text: "Slovakia's Longital (www.longital.com) exist in a place all their own making somewhere between Bjork and Eurythmics. Daniel Salontay and Shina Lo previously played with their band Dlhé Diely. They now perform as a trio though the third member is a laptop computer named Xi Di Nim. Their music is based on a marriage of intricate synthetic soundscapes and organic human warmth born out of the collaboration of lovers.

Lates album Gloria**** (SLNKO RECORDS) is a progression and slight departure from their previous work, Výprava/Voyage***** (SLNKO RECORDS). Gloria further explores the potential of the vocals as an instrument and there are frequent experimental passages of expressive singing without words. Many of the tracks have a relaxed, trance-like quality and suggest images of journeys both intimate and distant. Longital's website features streaming sound files from both albums and English translations on each page.

Read the original article here:

http://www.longital.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=111&Itemid=〈=en
www.rock-n-reel.co.uk

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Taking the role of modern jugglers, the guitarist Daniel Salontay and the bass-guitarist Shina depart their homebase in the Dlhé diely apartments in Bratislava, SK, to cruise around Europe, spreading the notion of the "east beat", a music style they have compiled from their talent, constant drive for searching, and the taste for preserving the traditional forms.

The combination of a versatile guitarist who has been exposed to jazz, blues and alternative rock, and a female lyrical music poet, who might seem fragile, yet she does manage to steer Slovakia's most valued indie label of Slnko Records, certainly does bring original fruit. The specific Longital world is a place where the means of classic music styles meet the electronics-assisted search for new ways. This is a world that is able to draw the listeners in with a force that prevents the return into the boring reality. Their music has been triumphant in attracting scores of passionate listeners through the records (see the latest studio album, Gloria, and the most recent accomplishment, the remix album of Revoyaged) and concerts which may seem peaceful on the surface, yet accumulated emotions are brewing beneath.

- *United Islands of Prague Festival about Longital*

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"One can happily enjoy the music of Slovak duo Longital (formerly Dlhé Diely) without ever considering how smart it is. On Výprava / Voyage, gently bouncing bass, careful electric guitar, and rich vocals make for poppy, cleanly-produced indie rock with a touch of the blues that is easy on the ears. Peel it apart, however, and each piece is its own delight. Daniel Salontay doesn't waste an extra note on oud and electric guitar, and applies a bow to his strings with great effect. He begins the album's capping track, "Na mori" (On the Sea), with a sublimely delicate loop of notes that harks back to his almost Zen arrangements on earlier albums September and Tu. Partner Šina then falls in with a signature bass line; full and melancholy, with a hint of jazz. Her vocals, meanwhile, emphasize melody, successfully disarming any listener's frustrations at not understanding the Slovak lyrics (translations come in the booklet). Salontay, who recently won a contest for remixing a track by Coldcut, built the drum loops on the band's "third member" Laptop Xi Di Nim. Together, the duo, which manages its own label, Slnko records, in Bratislava has produced an album more rambunctious than their previous, excellent Sveta diely, and proven again why they're a mainstay of the Czech and Slovak alternative scene."

- review of album Vyprava/Voyage by Eric Smillie, Signal to Noise US

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WHEN TWO continents collide the result is more than earthquakes and mountains. The moment they brush against one another, the lives of two separate landmasses join in a burst of exchange and evolution. Two worlds end and a new one is born. Salontay and Shina come together, allowing artistic ideas to cross freely from one side to the other, setting off an explosion of new growth. It is nice to know that not all tectonic meetings end in disaster.

- *review of album Continents, The Slovak Spectator*

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Universal soundtrack to dreaming
Urban, Lyric, Crossover!
Dream'n bass

- *winning short descriptions of Longital by myspace fans*

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From the position of cosmopolitan music designers, Longital paint their songs rather than compose, spreading their imagination on the canvas of life, nature, urban traffic lights, or just ordinary human rituals.

... who wouldn't want to be drawn through the landscape of wild cubist shapes, to smell electrified expressionist flowers and travel though country that is real but yet distant from anything comprehensible?

... the music of Longital is more relaxing than worrying, but it can also invoke doubts about the reality around us. In your imagination it creates a whole new world, an imaginative and dream-like one

...the message of Longital is : don't worry, you've got wings...

- review of the album *Vyprava/Voyage* on www.freemusic.cz

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The instant appeal to play the CD again will make you realize that the forty two minutes of Longital's *Voyage* took you really somewhere. The contrast between the closing eleven-minute track "On the Sea" and the opening three-minute folk tune "It's Time to Go" is like waking up from a deeply intense dream with a sharp light...

Forget about the genres and set on a voyage with Longital, If you are just slightly perceptive listeners, you will not regret that.

- review of the album *Vyprava* on Czech radio web www.rozhlas.cz

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This album is an enormous unknown ocean and one can easily dive in it and make great discoveries.

The mere fact that Salontay regularly plays his guitar with bow creates endless wave of melodic shifts. The samples employed on the album do not break the delicate musical texture and the beats make the compositions flow and develop their stories.

The genres meet on a thin ice, but it is solid enough not to crack. Shina's lyrics are crystal clear and leave enough space for all the various meanings that they evoke.

Quoting Ray Bradbury's "The Fog Horn" in the closing title "On the Sea" finishes the whole musical voyage. It will not leave you on a lonely island, no need to feel like a lost part of the puzzle. Helping hand (and also map) into the inner world is given by the beautiful digipack cover with drawings.

- review of the album *Vyprava* www.musicserver.cz

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One of the most notable revelations on Slovak world/indie scene, duo Longital previously known as Dlhé Diely, has released a new album *Gloria*. For the lovers of Bjork, Sigur Ros, but also Glen Hansard & Marketa Irglova (*The Swell Season*), Longital has brought a surprise that is jaw-dropping and breath-taking. If these two charming Bratislavians have caught your attention before, be informed that their new album is slightly different from the previous one and has reached exceptional quality and uplifting feeling.

- review of album *Gloria* - <http://rockmag.cz/clanky/longital-gloria/>

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...while the previous album *Voyage* was driven by the explorer's hunger and occasionally fed with darker and expressive undercurrents, the new album *Gloria* turns inward, tells stories about inner journeys and makes the feelings shine. You are advised to dim the light while listening.

... truly positive report about the state of two loving souls (no pathos!). To put it short, Shina and Daniel are again a bit different and again excellent...

- review of album *Gloria* - www.filofon.com

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... the music of Longital is inner and visual at the same time. You are invited to close your eyes and let yourself drift on the sea waves evoked by the sound of the language used (I am a Blue Sea). Anatomical ballad „Red and Blue“ is an appealing expression of endless conflicts between the head and the heart.

Longital use voice not just for communicating their poetry, it often is an instrument of its own. Slovak language is told to have no export potential. Daniel and Shina neglect this and give the foreign listener an opportunity to perceive the voice as a musical painting.

Despite *Gloria* was recorded in the living room, it has no weak points and a great export potential.

- review of album *Gloria* – [Hudba.sk](http://www.hudba.sk)

<http://www.hudba.sk/>

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Undoubtedly, on Slovak songwriting scene Longital have gone the farthest. That is why they successfully perform around whole Europe. It is good to see that they export something worth exporting. As the year 2008 is coming to an end, we have not witnessed more of such a strong recordings. *Gloria* is a serious candidate for an album of the year.

- review of album *Gloria* – [foremost Slovak daily Sme \(www.sme.sk\)](http://www.sme.sk)

<http://kultura.sme.sk/c/4173593/longital-si-vystacia-sami.html>

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Gloria reflects the best of what you have ever appreciated on Longital and their previous albums. Moreover, we witness a shift to new territories of joy where the blue sea brings bottles of unspoken messages about discoveries and drawings of beauty discovered on their voyage.

- review of album Gloria – Music Server
<http://musicserver.cz/clanek/23776/Longital-Gloria/#>

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While the message of Longital's previous album Voyage was to show the way, give the strength to change one's own world and bring the imaginary world to reality, the new album Gloria presents this new world at its best. What was before out of our reach is now within ourselves and the most important things are found not outside, but inside our hearts.

Writing about Longital is like describing love at first sight. It is hard to find words of explanation. May it be sophisticated jazz creations, lo-fi folk pleasures, the singing of frogs in Arles or purring of their cat – Longital are always the ones who win your attention. Dan serves jaw-dropping guitar solos and plays it with bow as a naturally born oriental sheik. Beautifully arranged songs flow in a relaxed manner, without sharp turns and cheap tricks. Both musicians surrender themselves completely, offering you their smiles, optimism, and delicately program the beats of their friend Xi-Di-Nim. The result is touching, beautiful and deeply humane.

- review of album Gloria - www.freemusic.cz
<http://www.freemusic.cz/clanky/6467-longital-a-gloria.html>

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As Longital on their journeys meet new electronic and digital companions, their new album Gloria tastes somewhat more experimental, still maintaining their own honesty and lightness. For the introduction to Longital I would recommend the previous album and the "first episode", Voyage, but I insist that no day is complete without the second half that comes after the noon. Likewise, no encounter with Longital can be complete without Gloria.

- review of album Gloria – Play.cz
<http://www.play.cz/recenze/longital-gloria>