



## **Extremely Sound - Manger in Berlin**

By: [Cai Brockmann](#) March 12, 2017

Images: Stefan Schulwitz

### **Light in the Underground - Manger in Berlin**

We want to enjoy music - in all its brilliance, but in unusual places. The invisible sound studio. In abgerockten backyard. On the dance floor at the club. This is only possible in Berlin, says Daniela Manger. The head of Manger Audio operates in the capital as my personal tour guide, it opens the doors to aural treasures in audiophile underground Berlin.

First stop: the invisible recording studio. It is a completely harmless residential area and is actually from the outside through absolutely nothing recognizable. Even the neighbors in this old building have no idea who or what is behind the name tag-less "front door" and the sound insulating panes of frosted glass or. Here Mark Ernestus operates tidy paradise for audiophile music creators a kind -. So even for yourself in order to get in at all, we have to register our phone via PIN. A doorbell does not exist. Mark Ernestus cautiously opens the heavy doors, and we may slip into the first room, a mix of Asian rigor and well sorted music depot. Right and left of the integrated tea kitchen, numerous instruments stacked on shelves from floor to ceiling. Vintage synthesizers are on the side, a guitar, a wide variety of percussion instruments. The real highlight, however, is the recording studio next door. Mark Ernestus, the world's sought-after DJ and music producer, has here, can be tailored a true dream of precious studio in the least suspicious allegedly neighborhood central Berlin. Two 20-square-meter rooms a unique

Sound Reverberation, designed by Willsingh Wilson was born. The renowned professor of technical acoustics realized an uncompromising room-in-room architecture in a typical Berlin building. The windowless studio is fully decoupled from the rest of the house. Each transmission of sound from the outside inwards - and of course vice versa - is prevented categorically. The enormous effort is rewarded by total silence and a finely balanced acoustics.



*Manger in Berlin - Right in the middle and fully attended: (!) Not less than 6,000 springs decouple the entire venue of the corner building, which is situated in the residential area. How complex the conversion must have been with double walls, floors, ceilings, already hints at a closer look at the floor plan. Then called "surround sound" more specialized "Transformer" and was on Dark Wave.*



*Manger in Berlin - The boss: Daniela Manger is pleased that the superb sound was the reason to carry on. The head of the club occasionally enjoys the sound and privately - alone in a deck chair on the dance floor...*



*Manger in Berlin - Mark Ernestus, DJ and music producer*

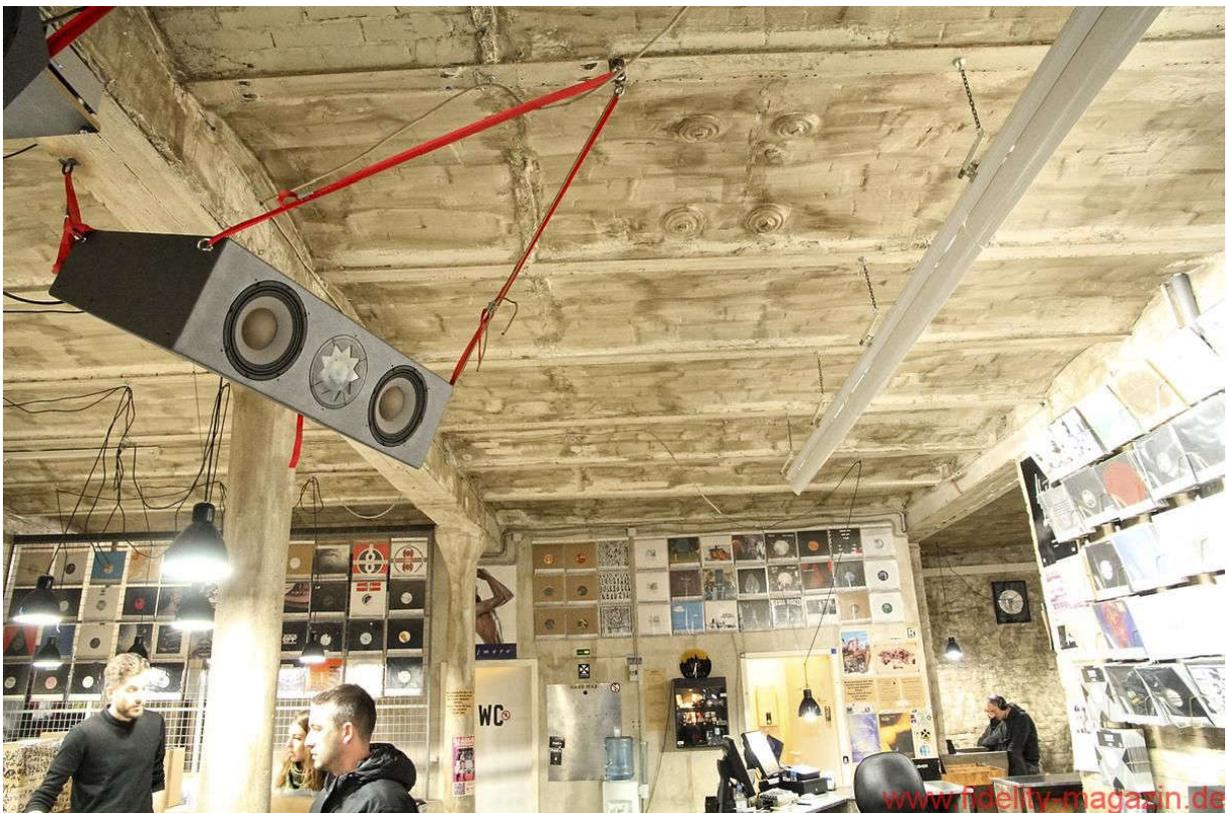
*Manger in Berlin - border crossing: The transition from the next room to the recording studio is visually marked by a heavy double doors and the change from tile to hardwood industry. Acoustically, the studio is absolutely perfect isolated from the rest of the house, a 20-20000 Hz optimized dream space of the room.*





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*Manger in Berlin - blast bar: the three MSWs in six spring-suspended units sound for the dance floor a large area - since 2001 without failure. Below 500 Hertz werkeln 12 "driver of Eminence in metal sandwich enclosure. 18" subwoofer JBL ensure in floating concrete housings for a slag-free low-pressure area.*

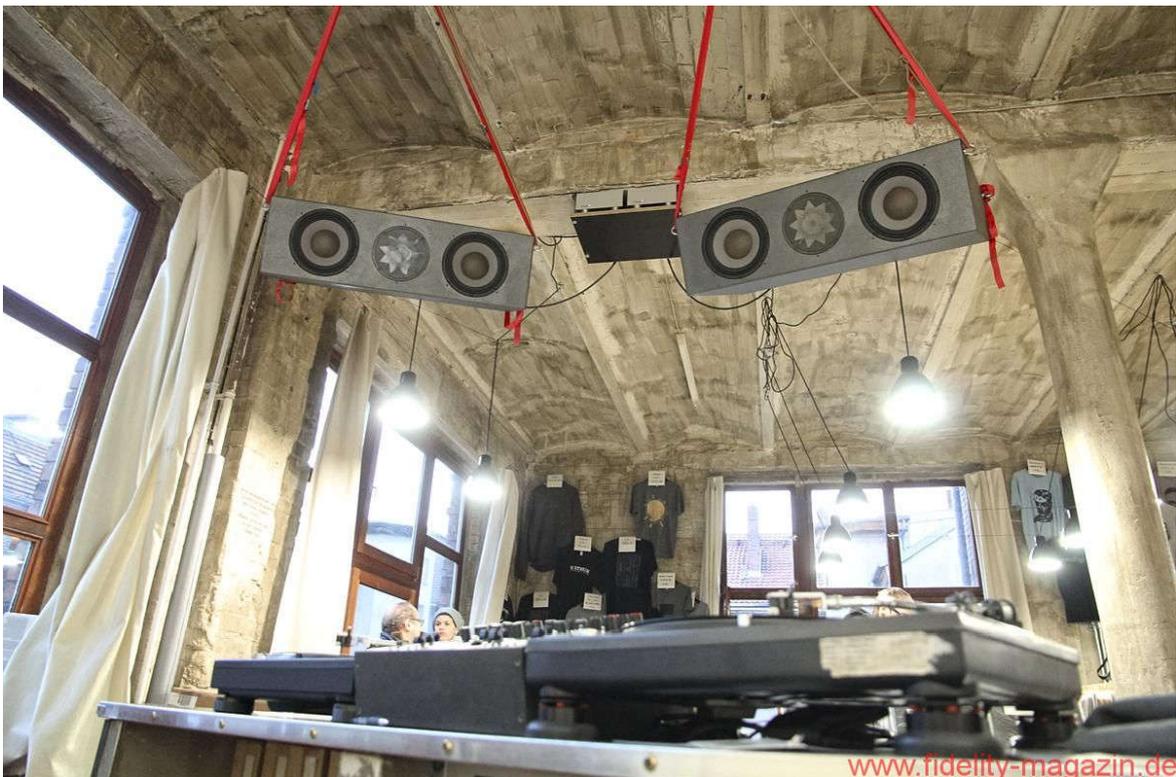


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*Manger in Berlin - blast bar: the three MSWs in six spring-suspended units*

All measures for sound optimization are executed virtually invisible and perfect: absorbers, diffusers and reflectors are behind, or more precisely, in dark gray sound-permeable fabric walls. The relaxed atmosphere of the room the quietest ventilation system helps that I have ever not heard. At 30 square meters net area especially an old studio turntables from Sony and two Manger MSM C1 fall on next mixer and laptop.

Interestingly, it is in this studio not to classical or jazz productions, and not about scientific sound experiments - all typical Manger domains. No, Mark Ernestus celebrating (s) rather with music genres successes, sometimes also associated with Lo-Fi, lusty bass orgies and shimmering art sound digressions explicitly included. As a DJ he puts live Although only dub and reggae, his personal history is also closely linked with house, hip hop and electronic music, especially with the "T-word" that he "did not like to pronounce" techno.

Although Mark Ernestus is currently mainly engaged in a very rhythm-heavy music project from Senegal - born in 1962 in Berlin counts above all the most influential supporters of the techno movement. In 1989 he founded the record store Hard Wax, which quickly became one-stop shop for fans of independent record labels, significantly contributed to the musical generation and established the long-term success of the "T word" and handpicked repertoire in international fandom.

Dub, reggae, hip hop, house, techno - why just Manger sound transducer, Mark? The restrained and subtly communicating label owner, music producer and studio owner is on record that he "never music side" listening. Yes, under live conditions may be desired, a certain "punch" in the bass yes, are crucial for him personally but "the amount of information, the resolution and clarity" in a recording. Consequently, he operates in his precious studio a couple Manger C1 and at home a couple 109. A detailed audio at the mixer with a Mbalax track (read: mbalach) is then absolutely convincing. Everything sounds totally clear and audible, not even begin thickened or somehow "too large", rather delightfully crisp and really in the best sense. Yes, that must be high-end sound in the recording studio!

Second stop: the abgerockte backyard. Welcome to Hard Wax. The legendary record store still exists. In Kreuzberg, third floor, factory floor, no elevator, at least not for passenger transport. The staircase one Graffitto. Slightly shabby industrial atmosphere ... So something is working permanently probably only in Berlin. Refreshingly, sometimes to be here again.

Amazingly bright it is at Hard Wax. But we are not come to a vinyl browse, but to marvel at the sound of the listening station at the counter. Two larger monitors hang from the ceiling, precisely aligned, fixed with bright red lashing strap and equipped with - guess what! - each with a Manger transducer and two hard suspended bass drivers to support. Yes, Mark Ernestus was here. So there audiophile full operation at the Techno bar, but only on request. Most customers is the precious sound seem to care, but I'm happy about such details. And later also the fact that I can do to re-descent accidents in the backyard. Outside, it has gradually become dark, and the stairwell is on two floors, the lighting broken.

Third stop: the dance floor in the empty club. The party location is called "surround sound" and is located in the corner of a row of houses in the district of Friedrichshain. The name promises a program to be, but "spatial sound" like many of course from a well-tuned HiFi system not be expected - a dance floor is not the sofa at home. Although Ralf Stucki, the cheerful owner of the club, sometimes even sets up a chair in the middle of the dance floor to enjoy undisturbed music right here. Why? Because the sound system installed here has the then chief of the "vault" a few years ago smooth cut down and eventually prompted to continue to lead a club - Stucki hung Wladimir Horowitz, and "it sounded here infinitely better than at home."

"Surround" is a location like no other in this world. Especially when it comes to acoustics and the sound system. This sound system does almost everything differently - it does not deafened, it

is not booming, it just does not distorted. So you can turn up as not clever, not to irritate the ears here. The music is just when needed louder and physically noticeable, but the usual distortions and impropriety are completely absent, the sound is very clean and clear, even at strammsten levels. The neighbors hear and feel from the high-power high-end project anything. Even surround sound was looked after in terms of acoustics by Willsingh Wilson, whose ideas and work, we have already met with Mark Ernestus. The innovative acoustician separated the strong narrow spaces of the club completely from the rest of the building on virtually invisible way: Not less than 6000 springs provide the perfect acoustic insulation of the entire establishment from the rest of the row of houses. The massive subwoofer units on the edge of the dance floor, equipped with 18-inch drivers from JBL Professional are even further decoupled.



*Manger in Berlin - Daniela Manger and Mark Ernestus*





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*Manger in Berlin - Good tipped system rack for flawless sound*

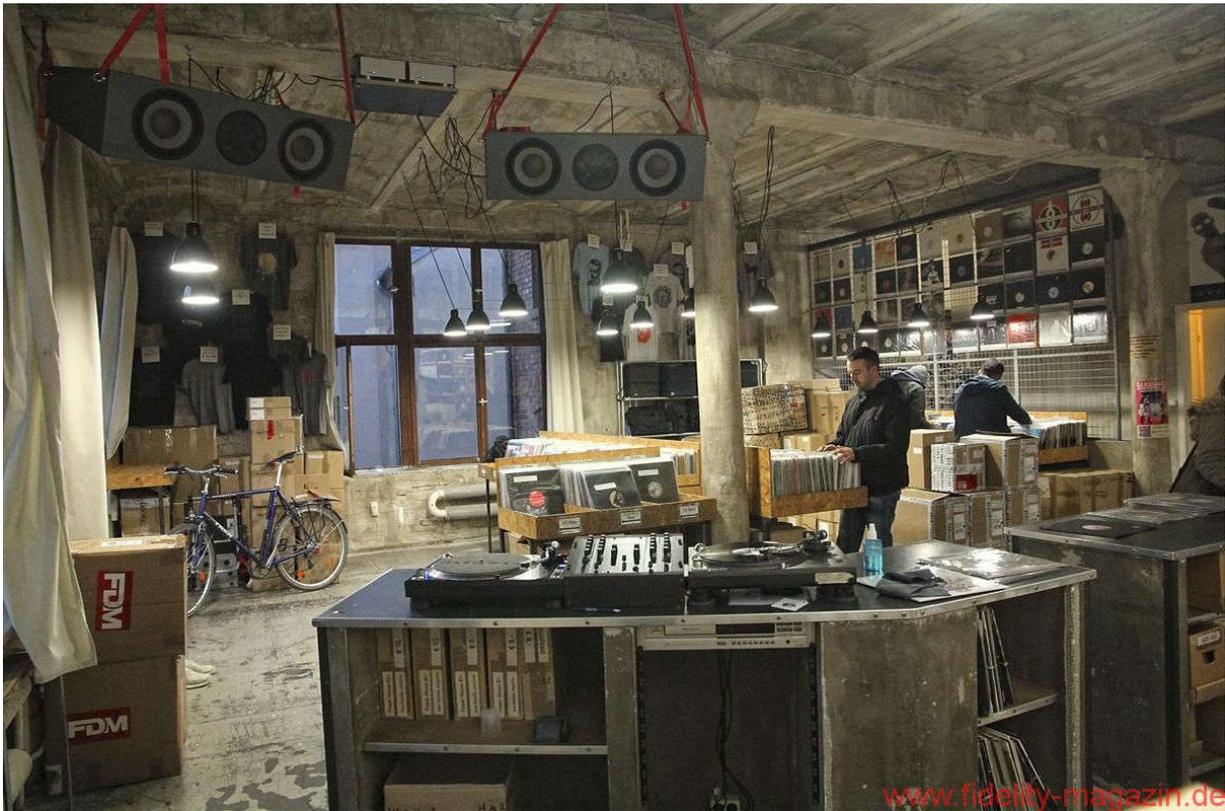


*Manger in Berlin - the optimum: In the studio environment, the active Manger MSM C1've been playing anyway exemplified by audible on the finishing touches give retrofit "Holoprofile". These sound guides made of acrylic, originally developed by Josef W. Manger be defined before the famous Manger transducer attached and optimize its radiation pattern.*





*Manger in Berlin - Alternative: Japan's answer to the dominance of heavy EMT Studio drives was the Sony PS-X9 with matching "Tondose". A slightly modified model is used by Mark Ernestus occasionally stationary.*



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Acoustic protagonist of this installation in 2001, six speaker units that could play in any good science fiction film. In a customized steel sandwich panels, each unit comprises a twelve inch of Eminence, which is responsible for frequencies between 80 and 500 Hertz, and three Manger sound transducer (MSW), which, not least, provide a result of the housing geometry for a highly uniform acoustic illumination of the dance floor. And for superior clarity.

Of this we can convince ourselves. We send a few proven, uncompressed demo tracks from via smartphone to the small mixer and from there to a head-high tower of professional power amplifiers of BGW and Crown. In turn, so does steam the six transducer units that swiftly is a private listening session from the "short preview". It sounds fantastic, does not generate any pressure on the ears, and each new good track creates a certain urge to maybe make a little louder. As fittingly Seeed roll with "Dickes B" by the party hall and the walls shake. In the non-transferred (d) s sense, as we have learned.

Real spooky, this experience: You're alone in the pitch-black, colorful flashing dance floor of a good club, hear incredibly good music, turn on unrestrained whim, shake it all up to you. Then you step out the door and look into the sunlight. No one knows of your good fortune. And not a single neighbor looks kind of funny.

No wonder that Ralf Stucki its surround sound regularly rented: DJs from the neighborhood who want to test their productions, live sets or even individual tracks loud here. However, Mark Ernestus is never over. Willsingh Wilson does. And now we know in both cases, why this is so.

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

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