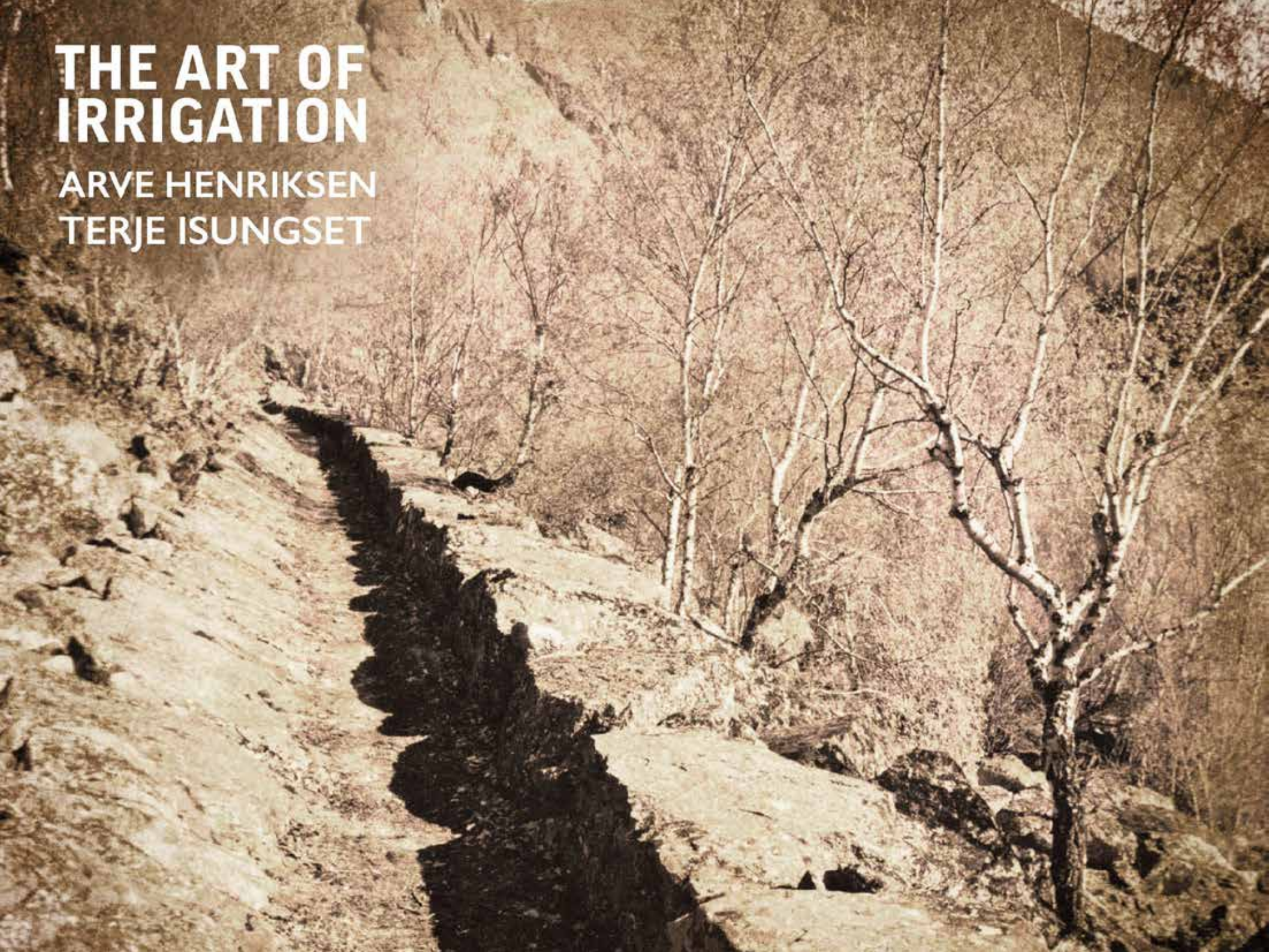


# THE ART OF IRRIGATION

ARVE HENRIKSEN  
TERJE ISUNGSET



The art of irrigation has followed man through the ages. Water means life. People from all over the world have been, and still are, struggling to get water to their fields to produce crops and food for their families. We have seen historical documentations, sites and illustrations from ancient Egypt, the Sumerian culture and remnants of Roman aqueducts that gives us an insight to the creative possibilities of water systems.

We have grown up on the Norwegian west coast and are used to rough weather where the rain pours frequently down the mountain sides and valleys and naturally creates streams that transports the water to the fields, lakes and fjords. But, one exception is the valley of Laerdal, that has a very different climate and suffers from too little rainfall. As you descend from the Hemsedal mountain and drive further west down the long beautiful Lærdal towards Sognefjord, you see how diligent peasants cultivate the soil and harvest first class apples, cherries, morels, plums and potatoes. With great effort and planning, cultivating and clearing new soil, the local farmers have met the challenge of directing water from streams in the mountain sides and rivers through untouched rocky terrain, and this old unique irrigation system is still the practice for keeping the agricultural landscape alive.

For the two of us the art of irrigation also illustrates how we as musicians work with energy, sound and orchestration. Our fascination grew after having visited an irrigation site with its complex and sensational network of water. The knowledge and inspiration we received from people working closely with this art has inspired us to connect our music to words and expressions associated with this unique tradition. We wish to reach out to new listeners, to fill new fields and undiscovered areas with energy and vitality, to create life and feed the creativity in the field of art that we are so fortunate to work with. This record is also a tribute to people's steadfast and unremitting efforts to cultivate their land, using their senses by living and working with the shifts and rhythms of the nature, a pulse that is now threatened by human robbery of resources, overuse and littering. We all share the responsibility for the management of the Earth's resources and to make Earth great again.

**Arve Henriksen**

*Liner note translated by Anna Maria Friman*





Norwegian masters of improvised music. Album recorded in a studio by the Sognefjord in Norway. Inspired by the old water channels systems needed to make food grow. You will find them world wide. The art of irrigation is a reflection of the old & modern times - global or local - or even in a more symbolic way for feeding our souls with music and art. The art of irrigation.

**ARVE HENRIKSEN:** Trumpet, voice & electronics.  
**TERJE ISUNGSET:** Drums & percussion.  
Recorded in Lærdal lydstudio-Norway, June 2015.  
Engineer: Tom Karlsrud.  
Mixed by Daniel Michael Wold and Terje Isungset.  
Mastered by Daniel Michael Wold.  
All Ice Records, Oct 1 - 2017.



Lærdalsøren - Norge.