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## The Week in Germany: Culture

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### Krautrock Legends Lend German Jams to a Monks Tribute Album



*Haircut: The Monks receive their tonsures*

Playloud!, the Berlin production company that brought us last year's documentary *Monks: The Transatlantic Feedback*, about the proto-punk band *The Monks*, has announced the US release of a Monks tribute compilation that features contributions from some of the greatest innovators in German rock music.

On July 19th, *Silver Monk Time* will deliver Monks-themed cuts from members of the power-tool rockers Einstürzende Neubauten, experimental tape loopers Faust, electro-mind-melters Mouse on Mars, and members of the original Monks, alongside a host of American and international acts.

The Monks were a band of American GI's stationed in Germany in the sixties who came together to play the "Beat" music launched by the Beatles on Hamburg's Reeperbahn. Soon, the Monks began to take a somewhat more literal approach to the genre, bashing on their instruments in hypnotic, wailing epics so visionary that the *Bild Zeitung* wrote, "noise, noise and no melody – robot music!".

Despite contemporary naysayers, the Monks have come out on top in the test of time. Over four decades after their outrageous debut, their raw sound is credited with being the birth of everything that was ever cool - from krautrock, to punk, to house music.

The resurgence in interest has been largely fueled by the success of *The Transatlantic Feedback*, which has recently won prizes at the Würzburg International Film Days and San Francisco's Beyond Film Festival.

**press clippings / silver monk time – a tribute to the monks**