



CHARLES GAYLE/MILFORD GRAVES/WILLIAM PARKER WEBO

Label

BLACK EDITIONS ARCHIVES

Format

3LP BOX

Catalog Number

BEA 003LP

UPC

769791986107



Store Price

\$45.99

Release Date

06/21/24

Territory

NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre

FILE UNDER - G - JAZZ



Exclusively Distributed by

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DESCRIPTION

"A legendary concert by one of the great unrecorded bands in free jazz history is here at last. *WEBO*, the third installment in the *Black Editions Archive* series of previously unreleased recordings from **Milford Graves'** private tape library, roars into the station June 21, 2024. For the first time, **Charles Gayle**, Milford Graves, & **William Parker** – three lions of the Black American jazz avantgarde – are finally heard together on record, presented here across three audiophile-quality LPs for two brutalizingly joyous hours of real ju-ju & musical mastery. The trio of Charles Gayle, Milford Graves, & William Parker gave only seven public performances between 1985 and 2013, and released no recordings. Their June 1991 two-night stand at the short-lived Lower East Side venue Webo, long referenced as a signal event in New York free jazz's 1990s resurgence, has been a topic of discussion among close followers of the music for decades. In the uncompromising grassroots spirit of the 1970s New York Musicians Organization and loft jazz movements from which they had emerged, the band produced and promoted the *WEBO* concerts themselves. Photography and audio recording were not allowed at the concerts, and this official recording, commissioned by the artists, was never released – until now. So vivid was the lore surrounding *WEBO* that it topped the list of recordings sought by Black Editions Archive from Graves' private collection. The tapes maximally substantiate eyewitness accounts describing extra-sensory levels of communication within the band, and the extraordinary clarity and impact of their performance. From William Parker's liner notes: 'Imagine a village or choir of drummers, horn players and strings. You can hear the bass and drums churning with a call and response, a melodic-rhythmic propulsion. In reality there is only one drummer, one bass, and one saxophone.' Age 52 at the time of these concerts, Charles Gayle had only recently made his first recordings. To all but the most immediate insiders he was still more myth than reality. Milford Graves, two months out from his 50th birthday, was about halfway into his body of recorded work and had sanctioned just one appearance on a commercially released recording in the last 14 years (*Pieces of Time* by an all-drummer quartet with **Kenny Clarke**, **Andrew Cyrille**, and **Famoudou Don Moye**). William Parker, the young man of the group at age 39, was a mere fifty entries into his discography, now 500+ entries and counting. All three musicians were at least a quarter century into passionately developing a personal and collective music rooted in the cultural values and radical aesthetics of the 1960s and '70s Black American avant-garde. 30+ years after the *WEBO* concerts, Black Editions Archive is honored to make these historical recordings available to the public. The three LPs are presented in a heavy black, pigment-stamped box with mounted cover painting along with liner notes by William Parker, commentary from **Alan Licht** (witness to night one of the *WEBO* concerts), a reproduction of the original concert flyer, and a set of 6"x9" printed photos from the 2021 *WEBO* reunion outside MoMA PS1, Queens, NY. Cover Painting by **Jeff Schlanger/musicWitness**, made June 8, 1991, at Webo during the band's performance. Vinyl pressed at RTI, lacquers cut by **Kevin Gray** at Coherent Audio." –**Michael Ehlers**, 2024

TRACKLISTING

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 01. <i>WEBO</i> 1 | 07. <i>WEBO</i> 7 |
| 02. <i>WEBO</i> 2 | 08. <i>WEBO</i> 8 |
| 03. <i>WEBO</i> 3 | 09. <i>WEBO</i> 9 |
| 04. <i>WEBO</i> 4 | 10. <i>WEBO</i> 10 |
| 05. <i>WEBO</i> 5 | 11. <i>WEBO</i> 11 |
| 06. <i>WEBO</i> 6 | |

HIGHLIGHTS

- A legendary concert by one of the great unrecorded bands in free jazz history is here at last. *WEBO*, the third installment in the *Black Editions Archive* series of previously unreleased recordings from **Milford Graves'** private tape library, roars into the station.
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Also available:

(BEA 001LP) BROTMANN/MILFORD GRAVES/WILLIAM PARKER, PETER: *Historic Music Past Tense Future* 2LP [769791980402]
(BEA 002LP) GRAVES WITH ARTHUR DOYLE & HUGH GLOVER, MILFORD: *Children of the Forest* 2LP [769791983847]

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