



ARCHIE SHEPP MEETS KAHIL EL'ZABAR'S RITUAL TRIO

Conversations

Label

BLACK SWEAT RECORDS

Format

2LP

Catalog Number

BS 038LP

UPC

769791969612



Store Price

\$26.39

Release Date

06/15/18

Territory

NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre

FILE UNDER - S - JAZZ



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FORCED EXPOSURE

60 Lowell Street, Arlington, MA 02476
ph: (781) 321-0320 • fx: (781) 321-0321
fe@forcedexposure.com

DESCRIPTION

If *Conversations* celebrates the memory, the artistic and spiritual heritage of bassist **Fred Hopkins** – a historical member of the revolutionary **Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians** of Chicago – who died in January 1999, it also marks the amazing collaboration between the **Ritual Trio** of **Kahil El'Zabar** (with **Ari Brown** and **Malachi Favors**) and the intrepid veteran **Archie Shepp**, the great voice of the '70s Afro-free-jazz. Being a tribute that invites to an intimate memory, almost an antidote to exorcise the loss of a brother, the music is a spiritual hymn to life. Between ballads, hard-bop, and free-improvised accents, blow winds of vibrant pianistic chiaroscuros, which are reminiscent of the best **McCoy Tyner** in the great blinding quartet of **John Coltrane** in the '60s. Furthermore, when an angular rhythmic base decisively follows the typical hypnotic ostinato of the ancient tribal rituals, the voice is expressed in the purest black spirituals (**Big Fred** and **Brother Malcolm**), pervading some moments of that "Holiness" culture dear to the dawn of Afro-American identity. Here, Shepp brings back the flaming shivers of the golden age, when his message of freedom resonated the true spirits of primordial Africa.

TRACKLISTING

01. Conversations 1; The Introduction (8:11)
02. Big Fred (8:20)
03. Kari (8:30)
04. Whenever I Think Of You (9:27)
05. Conversations 2; The Dialogue (10:11)
06. Brother Malcolm (8:18)
07. Revelations (7:41)

HIGHLIGHTS

- If *Conversations* celebrates the memory, the artistic and spiritual heritage of bassist **Fred Hopkins**, it also marks the amazing collaboration between the **Ritual Trio** of **Kahil El'Zabar** (with **Ari Brown** and **Malachi Favors**) and the intrepid veteran **Archie Shepp**.
- Between ballads, hard-bop, and free-improvised accents, blow winds of vibrant pianistic chiaroscuros.
- Shepp brings back the flaming shivers of the golden age, when his message of freedom resonated the true spirits of primordial Africa.

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Press Contact: publicity@forcedexposure.com