



CHRISTER BOTHÉN FEATURING BOLON BATA Trancedance

Label

BLACK TRUFFLE

Format

LP

Catalog Number

BT 118LP

EAN

4250101466038



Store Price

\$21.99

Release Date

05/24/24

Territory

NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre

FILE UNDER - B - JAZZ



DESCRIPTION

Black Truffle announces the first vinyl reissue of *Trancedance*, a wild slice of Swedish Afro-fusion from **Christer Bothén**, originally released in 1984. A major figure in Swedish jazz and improvised music since the 1970s, often heard on bass clarinet and tenor sax, Bothén studied doso n'koni (the large six-stringed "hunter's harp" of the Wasulu) in Mali in 1971-1972 before turning to the guinbri (the three-stringed lute of the Gnawa/Gnauoua) in Marakesh later in the decade. In between, he performed extensively with **Don Cherry** during his **Organic Music Society** period and taught Cherry the doso n'koni. In the later '70s and '80s he worked with the most important figures in the distinctive Swedish jazz-rock-world fusion scene, joining **Archimedes Badkar** for their African-influenced **Tre** and participating in **Bengt Berger**'s legendary **Bitter Funeral Beer Band**. Many of the musicians who played on the Bitter Funeral Beer Band's ECM LP (including Berger on drums, **Anita Livstrand** on voice and percussion and **Tord Bengtsson** on piano, violin and guitar) joined Bothén for one of the sessions that produced *Trancedance*, the first release under his own name, dedicated to his compositions. The other session introduced his seven-piece group **Bolon Bata**, heard on the second track of each side. Using an expanded 16-piece ensemble, the music balances untethered improvisation with carefully arranged passages of knotty ensemble playing that at points suggest **Mingus**, **Moacir Santos**, or some of the ambitious post-free work being done in the same years by figures like **David Murray** or **Henry Threadgill**. A must for fans of the Swedish scene around groups like **Arbete och Fritid** and **Archimedes Badkar**, as well as any listener who has been seduced by **Louis Moholo**'s *Spirits Rejoice!*, **The Brotherhood of Breath**, or, more recently, the guinbri grooves of **Natural Information Society**, *Trancedance* is a lost classic ripe for rediscovery.

TRACKLISTING

- A1. Trance Dance (10:50)
- A2. Mimouna (9:09)
- B1. 9 + 10 Moving Pictures For The Ear (16:58)
- B2. The Horizon Stroller (9:14)

HIGHLIGHTS

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- Using an expanded 16-piece ensemble, the music balances untethered improvisation with carefully arranged passages of knotty ensemble playing that at points suggest **Mingus**, **Moacir Santos**, or some of the ambitious post-free work being done in the same years by figures like **David Murray** or **Henry Threadgill**.
- RIYL: **Arbete och Fritid**, **Archimedes Badkar**, **Louis Moholo**, **The Brotherhood of Breath**, **Natural Information Society**.

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