



SANDMAN PROJECT Where Did You Go?

Label

BATOV RECORDS

Format

LP

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06/07/24

Territory

NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre

FILE UNDER - S - JAZZ



DESCRIPTION

Sandman Project's long awaited debut album *Where Did You Go?* is a borderless amalgam of brass heavy sounds, a document of a band whose musical tendencies mimic their open-minded ethic where Ethio-jazz, Afrobeat, American soul music and psychedelic, Mediterranean funk traverse. Led by guitarist and composer **Tal Sandman**, Tel Aviv based Sandman Projects' last release was in 2018 on their debut EP, their only existing recording. Six years later and it is no surprise this expansive work is positively brimming with an ocean of ideas, rooted in jazz, exceptionally crafted and boasting a myriad of musical pivots with a subtle but crucial production and synth touch by producer **Tomer Baruch**. Absolutely key to this new recording and Tal's adult musical upbringing and education is the ongoing influence of saxophonist **Abate Barihun**, sometimes known as the Ethiopian **John Coltrane** who is an Ethiopian Jew who emigrated to Israel in 1999. Whilst he doesn't feature directly on the record, Tal has long been mentored and stewarded by him and she affirms that "his inspiration continues to play a crucial role in my creative process." And so, to the album's title track "Where Did You Go?" which oozes film-noir with Tal's omnipresent Tizta sound using the Tezeta scales from Ethiopia dictating the mood whilst synths transcend and build an immersive soundscape something akin to **Mulatu Astatke** jamming with the **Fleet Foxes** with **Brian Eno**-esque electronic manipulation. The Sandman project line up comprises of five core musicians with Tal Sandman on electric guitar, **Tal Avraham** playing trumpet, **Tal Eyal** on percussion, **Noam Cherchie** on drums, and **Ariel Harrosh** on bass. Additional synth and organ provided by producer Tomer Baruch and guest vocalist **Dafna Shilon** joins on the album closer "The Other Side." Further vintage synth excursions repeat on "Cauda Equina," with Tal's heavy fretting giving the track a funk feel, and a dreamy one as the trumpet builds. Six years in the waiting, and with plentiful personal and collective transformation giving *Where Did You Go?* a deeper sense of geography and global nuance, the new sound of Sandman Project is rich, porous and dreamy and essentially, full of hope.

TRACKLISTING

01. Karnataka (5:13)
02. Intro Based On Fire (0:33)
03. Based On Fire (3:22)
04. Where Did You Go? (3:53)
05. Cauda Equina (3:55)
06. Chinese Box (2:45)
07. Temptations & Figs (6:13)
08. The X Files (5:12)
09. Before The Storm (5:39)
10. The Other Side (4:24)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Sandman Project**'s long awaited debut album *Where Did You Go?* is a borderless amalgam of brass heavy sounds, a document of a band whose musical tendencies mimic their open-minded ethic where Ethio-jazz, Afrobeat, American soul music and psychedelic, Mediterranean funk traverse.
- This expansive work is positively brimming with an ocean of ideas, rooted in jazz, exceptionally crafted and boasting a myriad of musical pivots with a subtle but crucial production and synth touch by producer **Tomer Baruch**.
- RIYL: **John Coltrane**, **Mulatu Astatke**, **Fleet Foxes**, **Brian Eno**.

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