

ALI OMAR Hashish Hits

Label
EFFICIENT SPACE

Format
LP
Catalog Number
EFFICIENT 041LP

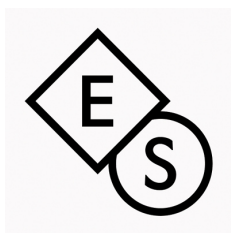
EAN
4251804184540



Store Price
\$21.39

Release Date
02/07/25

Territory
NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE
Genre
FILE UNDER - O - ELECTRONIC



DESCRIPTION

Efficient Space honors the memory of producer and MC **Ali Omar** with *Hashish Hits*, a posthumous selection from the dub rebel's self-released discography. One of ten children in working-class Liverpool, Omar drew deep influence from his father's Arabic heritage – a thread central to his identity and sample origins. After art school and a spell clubbing during Manchester's halcyon days, he relocated to Sydney, where he co-founded the blunted downbeat duo **Atone** with fellow British expatriate **Andy Fitzgerald**. As an MC, he infiltrated the city's house, dub, jungle, and bass circuits, becoming a regular fixture at the Bentley Bar, where he commanded the mic with his versatile, rumbling baritone and charisma. Freakishly talented in the studio, Omar was a pioneer of the Akai sampler and Atari, deftly recording live sessions straight to DAT. Drawing on industry insights from his sister, Merseybeat firebrand **Beryl Marsden** – who supported **The Beatles** on their final UK tour and was signed to Decca and Columbia – the non-conformist sought to build a self-sufficient business model. Between 1998 and 2004, he independently issued four albums on CD through his Hashish Studios imprint, hustling copies directly to local record stores and live shows for instant returns, even hand-sewing screen-printed hessian sleeves for his final release. Uncompromising in his principles and refusing to suffer fools or charlatans, Omar relished the opportunity to collaborate with those who embodied the same spirit. *Hashish Hits* offers a snapshot of his inner sanctum – Fitzgerald on the opening track's billowing smoke stacks, the serpentine vocals of **Gina Mitchell** and the magic hands of mixer **Louis Mitchell** on "On Release," and **Wicked Beat Sound System's Kye** on "Poor Man Beggar Man Thief." Meanwhile, "Suicide Bomber" smolders with the tension of a lost **Muslimgauze** relic, as the instructional "Roll Up" and "The Last Straw" spiral deeper into Omar's signature production vortex – where space stretches in slow motion and walls reverberate with ricocheting delay. A true icon of Sydney's underground scene, the larger-than-life Omar passed away on 23 June 2009 after a valiant battle with cancer. He is remembered for his assertive spirit, larrikin humor, wild anarchic personality, and enduring mantra: "Love and live your life."

TRACKLISTING

01. Hashish
02. The Last Straw
03. Nu Stone Groove
04. On Release
05. Poor Man Beggar Man Thief (Feat. **Kye**)
06. Suicide Bomber
07. Roll Up
08. For Love's Sake

HIGHLIGHTS

- Efficient Space honors the memory of producer and MC **Ali Omar** with *Hashish Hits*, a posthumous selection from the dub rebel's self-released discography.
- Omar co-founded the blunted downbeat duo **Atone** with fellow British expatriate **Andy Fitzgerald**.
- *Hashish Hits* offers a snapshot of his inner sanctum – Fitzgerald on the opening track's billowing smoke stacks, the serpentine vocals of **Gina Mitchell** and the magic hands of mixer **Louis Mitchell** on "On Release," and **Wicked Beat Sound System's Kye** on "Poor Man Beggar Man Thief."

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