



MICHAEL MAYER The Floor Is Lava

Label

KOMPAKT

Format

CD

Catalog Number

KOMP 184CD

EAN

4250101474446



Store Price

\$11.99

Release Date

11/01/24

Territory

NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre

FILE UNDER - M - ELECTRONIC

●KOMPAKT

Format

2LP

Catalog Number

KOM 499LP

EAN

4250101474439



Store Price

\$23.39

DESCRIPTION

Michael Mayer albums don't come round too often, which is one of many reasons why his fourth collection, *The Floor Is Lava*, is a genuine event. Mayer's name on a record sleeve is a sign of quality, of music that's both looking to the future and calling back to the past, that balances the imperatives of the dancefloor and the lounge room, that's as exploratory as it is functional. On *The Floor Is Lava*, Mayer seems to be taking the temperature of both the music that surrounds him (past and present), and the ideas of the industry he works within. There's that iconic album title, for a start. For Mayer, it's partly a critique of the way the industry boxes in both producer and listener, focuses them on genre, on market, on the next new thing. With *The Floor Is Lava*, the result is an album that's varied, quixotic, idiosyncratic, charming, and deeply, addictively listenable. Throughout, Mayer finds thrills in exploration and juxtaposition, allowing unexpected things to blossom and giving them their life, their platform, throwing the listener exciting curveballs. Either easily bored, or endlessly curious, *The Floor Is Lava* is rich with ideas. Mayer mentions **Pal Joey**, and the scene around **Rockers Hi-Fi** and their Different Drummer imprint, as reference points, and you can hear that freewheeling spirit throughout. There's psychedelic techno on "Feuerstuhl", more minimal techno with "Ardor," slippery, **Shepard**-tone breakbeat through "Sycophant", a lovely, lush vocal turn on the poppy "The Solution." The album closes with the melancholy "Süßer Schlaf", where Mayer sets a poem by **Goethe** to one of his most haunted, moving pieces of music yet, in an abstract tribute to a lost friend. It's one of the most affecting moments on *The Floor Is Lava*. There's also an update on 2020's wild *Brainwave Technology* EP, with the surrealist glitter-stomp of "Brainwave 2.0," where Mayer's thinking about the socio-political precipice of the now. An album for the easily bored and the endlessly curious. Mayer has the last word, telling us all you need to know about the album's spirit: "Burning for the cause, being zealous, being addicted to the heat of the night, the exuberant powers of music."

TRACKLISTING

01. The Problem (4:15)
02. Vagus (5:31)
03. Feuerstuhl (5:32)
04. Kiss And Tell (4:54)
05. Brainwave 2.0 (5:59)
06. Ardor (5:33)
07. Sycophant (5:55)
08. The Solution (6:06)
09. Süßer Schlaf (4:00)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Michael Mayer** albums don't come round too often, which is one of many reasons why his fourth collection, *The Floor Is Lava*, is a genuine event.
- On *The Floor Is Lava*, Mayer seems to be taking the temperature of both the music that surrounds him (past and present), and the ideas of the industry he works within.
- Throughout, Mayer finds thrills in exploration and juxtaposition, allowing unexpected things to blossom and giving them their life, their platform, throwing the listener exciting curveballs.

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