

## Isaiah Collier

# Parallel Universe



# ISAIAH COLLIER Parallel Universe

Label

#### **NIGHT DREAMER**

**Format** 

2LP

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11/24/23

Territory

# **NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE**

Genre

**FILE UNDER - C - JAZZ** 



## DESCRIPTION

Multi-instrumentalist and composer Isaiah Collier connects with the divine ancestors on a transcendent Direct-To-Disc session, Parallel Universe. A saxophonist by trade whose multi-instrumental talents and compositional prowess have stretched the limits of the form, Parallel Universe represents a new chapter in Collier's musical journey. Having already performed with a diverse range of musicians such as Chance The Rapper, Waddada Leo Smith, Chicago jazz royalty Angel Bat Dawid, and his own band The Chosen Few, Collier's latest work as a bandleader explores the shared musical heritage of the African diaspora with a sense of grace and assurance that belies his years. Embracing the risk and vulnerability that comes with the live process, Collier and his band tapped into the frequencies of improvisation that fired up so many of the most timeless jazz recordings. Name-checking Sun Ra, Ras G, J Dilla, Fela Kuti, Miles Davis, Gil ScottHeron, Whitney Huston, Aaliyah, and Frankie **Knuckles**, the opening track of *Parallel Universe* imagines a genreless musical lineage that resonates with the polyphony of stories his band bring to the table, from Chicago and beyond. Featuring gospel soul singer Jimetta Rose, AACM, and former Art Ensemble of Chicago trumpet player Corey Wilkes, bluesrooted guitarist Michael Damani, regular collaborators Julian Davis Reid, James Russell Sims and Micah Collier, the eight-track album bristles with a sense of love and understanding between players at the top of their game. With vocals sung in Yoruba - inspired by a gift from legendary saxophonist Kenny Garrett - "Village Song" soars between rhythms and references, from Afro-Cuban syncopation to the deep triplet swing of mid-'60s Coltrane. Laying the foundations for the album as a whole, the result is truly exhilarating.

#### TRACKLISTING

- A1. Eggun
- A2. Village Song
- B1. Retreat
- B2. Parallel Universe
- C1. The Lean
- C2. Never Back Down
- D1. Open The Door
- D2. The Last Sona

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Parallel Universe represents a new chapter in multi-instrumentalist and composer
   Isaiah Collier 's musical journey.
- RIYL: Sun Ra, Ras G, J Dilla, Fela Kuti, Miles Davis, Gil ScottHeron, Whitney Huston, Aaliyah, and Frankie Knuckles.
- Featuring gospel soul singer Jimetta Rose, AACM, former Art Ensemble
  of Chicago trumpet player Corey Wilkes, blues-rooted guitarist Michael
  Damani, and regular collaborators Julian Davis Reid, James Russell
  Sims and Micah Collier.

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