



SANDY CHAMOUN, ANTHONY SAHYOUN & JAD ATOUI *Ghadr*

Label

RUPTURED

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LP

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Territory

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Genre

FILE UNDER - C - ELECTRONIC

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DESCRIPTION

On **Ghadr**, **Sandy Chamoun, Anthony Sahyoun and Jad Atoui** play with chaos. Built on group improvisation, surges of coruscating electronics and distortion meld with vocals that, while stemming from a background in classical Arabic singing, seek to reroute tradition. The album, whose title imperfectly translates to "Treachery," began on a residency in Switzerland while the trio were touring Europe (Chamoun solo, Atoui and Sahyoun as their duo **NP**). It was later finished in their home city of Beirut. The five tracks are built on vibrant circuits of guitar and modular synthesis, the former often acting as a trigger for the latter's volatile output. Chamoun's vocals blend her background in classical Arabic music with free-singing, using tradition as a foundation for exploration rather than standards to follow. Apart from "Hayawanon Ghader (treacherous animal)," all the songs' lyrics pull from the archive. About the album's title, Chamoun explains: "On this planet, the only thing that's happening now is treachery. It's the headline of our days." Terror in Gaza, its shockwaves through the Middle-East and its place in longer histories loom over the record. However, while *Ghadr* reflects the present moment, it isn't consumed by it. The trio agree the album reflects tenderness as much as anger. It's audible in the effortless swings between abstract and soaring. The way Chamoun's lyrics put ninth century odes to a bird and ancient Bedouin love songs next to personal reflections by Al-Domouky or Chaoul on real world tragedies. Sonically and lyrically *Ghadr* is music of possibility and potential. The five tracks travel through unbounded terrain rather than along fixed paths. While the record reflects their state of mind as residents of Lebanon, and the uncertainty that entails, Sahyoun suggests they're striving to reach beyond it. *Ghadr* is the first release under the name Chamoun/Sahyoun/Atoui, but the trio's connection is deeply rooted. Sahyoun and Chamoun are members of ecstatic rock collective **Sanam**. Atoui and Sahyoun's explorations of synthesis, solo and as NP, are long-running. On *Ghadr* these histories form something new. A charged record which faces the world as it is while offering glimpses of something else.

TRACKLISTING

01. Taha Layl
02. Bihali
03. Al-Moulatham
04. Hayawanon Ghader
05. Al-Samaa wal Nabaat wal Ghaabaat wal Zaytoun wal Laymoun wal Lawz wal Tin

HIGHLIGHTS

- On **Ghadr**, **Sandy Chamoun, Anthony Sahyoun and Jad Atoui** play with chaos. Built on group improvisation, surges of coruscating electronics and distortion meld with vocals that, while stemming from a background in classical Arabic singing, seek to reroute tradition.
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