



KMRU Natur

Label

TOUCH

Format

CD

Catalog Number

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EAN

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07/26/24

Territory

NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre

FILE UNDER - K - ELECTRONIC

TOUCH

DESCRIPTION

When **KMRU** relocated to Berlin from Nairobi, he was immediately fascinated by the German capital's relative silence. Back home, he was surrounded by sound: the omnipresent churr of birds and insects, the chatter of passers-by, and the electrical smog belched out by criss-crossing power lines and roaring transformers. In Berlin, this noise was muzzled; pedestrians wandered the streets with headphones in, barely communicating, while electrical cables were hidden away underground, and wildlife retreated from the imposing, concrete jungle. KMRU compares this observation with his visual experiences. Acclimatizing to life in Western Europe, he realized that night, a dusky blue-black lit up by streetlights and shops, offered little contrast with day. Nighttime in Kenya felt more tangible, somehow. After 6PM, when the sun sets, even the dim glow of a screen can dazzle the eyes, which must quickly adapt to the conditions. And as anyone who's closed their eyes while listening to music will know, the ears also adjust when visibility is impaired, enhancing even the tiniest sounds. So KMRU used this phenomenon to inform *Natur*, a billowing long-form narrative that blurs the audible spectrum with an imperceptible sonic universe, contrasting cacophonous electromagnetic soundscapes with more familiar and grounding natural sounds. The piece was composed in 2022, and since then KMRU has made it a live staple, tweaking and reshaping it as he performed on tour with **Fennesz**, and with the **London Contemporary Orchestra** at Southbank Centre. The experience allowed KMRU to sculpt not only the album's crucial dynamics, but its philosophy. *Natur* is KMRU's most uncompromising work to date, crackling to life from dense clouds of static and intimidating, dissonant drones. Using electromagnetic microphones, he uncloaks the commotion hidden by the digital era's ambiguous stillness, juxtaposing roaring, mechanical growls with microscopic glitches and tranquil, electrical wails. When environmental recordings do appear, they're used as transitions between the thickets of harsh noise; sometimes hard to identify, they subconsciously remind the listener that behind the wall of sound there's a natural world in constant communication, continually adapting to the fluctuating ecosystem. KMRU sees *Natur* as a way to reconsider what technology actually is and how it changes perceptions of reality. On *Natur*, KMRU allows listeners to visualize a concealed landscape, one that's teeming with life and in dialog with mechanization.

TRACKLISTING

01. Natur 1 (6:20)
02. Natur 2 (10:50)
03. Natur 3 (7:50)
04. Natur 4 (9:00)
05. Natur 5 (18:38)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **KMRU's** *Natur* is a billowing long-form narrative that blurs the audible spectrum with an imperceptible sonic universe, contrasting cacophonous electromagnetic soundscapes with more familiar and grounding natural sounds.
- Using electromagnetic microphones, he uncloaks the commotion hidden by the digital era's ambiguous stillness, juxtaposing roaring, mechanical growls with microscopic glitches and tranquil, electrical wails.
- When environmental recordings do appear, they're used as transitions between the thickets of harsh noise; sometimes hard to identify, they subconsciously remind the listener that behind the wall of sound there's a natural world in constant communication, continually adapting to the fluctuating ecosystem.

Also available:

(ACU 003LP) KMRU: *Stupor* LP [4062548074000]

(EMEGO 289CD) KMRU: *Peel* CD [5050580766204]

(RU 001LP) KMRU: *Dissolution Grip* LP [880918263212]

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