



## RAFAEL ANTON IRISARRI The Shameless Years

Label

**UMOR REX**

Format

**LP**

Catalog Number

**UR 100LP**

UPC

603149211599



Store Price

**\$19.79**

Release Date

**06/11/21**

Territory

**NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE**

Genre

**FILE UNDER - I - ELECTRONIC**



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### DESCRIPTION

2021 clear vinyl repress with new cover art; originally released in 2017. Post-minimalist American composer **Rafael Anton Irisarri's** Umor Rex debut. Inspired by a troubled socio-political climate, buried melodies punch their way through a bleak cover of noisy drones, periodically veering into some of Irisarri's most eerily pertinent music to date. One of Rafael Anton Irisarri's most thematically and sonically cohesive records to date *The Shameless Years* came together in a relatively short burst of creativity starting at the end of 2016. Rediscovering some relatively older tools – namely Native Instruments' Reaktor, Absynth, and Kontakt software – Irisarri combined them with his collection of guitars, pedals, amps, and analogue processing gear, turning his Black Knoll Studio north of NYC into a powerful writing tool. Completed quickly by Irisarri's standards, let alone during a period of social upheaval in American society, the record faces down several key personal themes. Two tracks were completely remotely between Irisarri in New York and Umor Rex veteran **Siavash Amini** from his home in Tehran, Iran. This music came together at the peak of all the anti-Muslim and anti-immigrant rhetoric happening in the USA, not to mention the banning of Iranians from entering the country, explains Irisarri. The diptych with Amini, "Karma Krama" and "The Faithless", seems bathed in additional waves of sorrow and dread. The wash of symphonic storm clouds of synth drones and processed notes on the latter gradually appears and disappears over the course of thirteen mournful minutes. "Rh Negative" marches gigantic guitars through towering valleys of scarred ambient noise dealing with Irisarri's own heritage, many of his ancestors having come to America to escape poverty and oppression. The refusal of modern America to extend similar sanctuary to refugees escaping turmoil weighs heavily on the composer. Elsewhere an emotional onslaught of notes buried in mounds of greyscale noise on "Sky Burial" aims to deal with Irisarri's very own mortality – something he was recently confronted with following health scares, an accident, and a near-death experience in 2016. Pushing 40 as this album was being made, the composer is constantly aware that he's already outlived his own father, who died at the age of 32. Facing down both intolerance and the void, the epic soundscapes of *The Shameless Years* are a vast cry of emotion from Irisarri. Mastered by **James Plotkin**. Includes download code.

### TRACKLISTING

01. Indefinite Fields (6:05)
02. RH Negative (5:49)
03. Bastion (8:47)
04. Sky Burial (4:52)
05. Karma Krama (6:03)
06. The Faithless (13:14)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- 2021 clear vinyl repress with new cover art; originally released in 2017.
- Post-minimalist American composer **Rafael Anton Irisarri's** Umor Rex debut.
- Inspired by a troubled socio-political climate, buried melodies punch their way through a bleak cover of noisy drones, periodically veering into some of Irisarri's most eerily pertinent music.
- Includes download code.

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