

KEITH HUDSON PLAYING IT COOL



KEITH HUDSON Playing It Cool & Playing It Right

Label

WEEK-END RECORDS

Format

LP

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EAN

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NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre

FILE UNDER - H - WORLD

**Week—End
Records**

Exclusively Distributed by

FORCED EXPOSURE

60 Lowell St, Arlington, MA 02476
ph: (781) 321-0320 • fx: (781) 321-0321
fe@forcedexposure.com

DESCRIPTION

Keith Hudson, who temporarily worked as a dentist in the ghettos of Kingston, emigrated to New York City in 1976 and died there prematurely in 1984. He is best known for his work as a producer for artists such as **U-Roy**, **Big Youth**, **Ken Boothe**, and **Horace Andy** and within short order Hudson brought his all-round talent to full fruition. In 1974, he produced two ground-breaking albums. *Pick A Dub* was one of the first official dub albums ever, and is still considered to be one of the greatest moments of Jamaican music. In addition, the unique *Flesh Of My Skin*, *Blood Of My Blood* became the first concept album in reggae history. Thematically dedicated entirely to black history, this masterpiece captivates with an atmosphere that is as dark as it is deeply spiritual, charged by Hudson's eccentric vocals. In 1981, he created the dub masterpiece *Playing It Cool*, *Playing It Right* which he produced with the help of Wackie's founder and mastermind **Lloyd 'Bullywackie' Barnes**. It remained the only collaboration between the two producers. Hudson decided to release it on his own label Joint International as he has done on his previous releases. The album continues Hudson's psycho-acoustic journey into the abyss of existence and has the power to overwhelm the listener with the beauty of artistic self-empowerment. "Too Much Formula" sings Hudson, whose voice occasionally recalls **Sly Stone**, "Darkest Night" answers an echoing background chorus found elsewhere on the track "California." Hudson's production techniques are fascinating on this album. There is often a kind of flashing-whip sound on the snare, which adds dynamics to the whole album. Rarely has a dub record sounded so electrifying, with radical spatial sound spreading out in all directions and rarely has it been as crystal clear, with warm bass and echophonic treatments as contained within these 30 minutes of music. 43 years after its first release and 20 years after its last re-release on the German-British label Basic Replay (Basic Channel/Honest Jon's), *Playing It Cool*, *Playing It Right* is now finally available again via Week-End Records, with a newly revised master and a rare interview with Lloyd 'Bullywackie' Barnes, talking about the making of this amazing album.

"It feels fresh and sounds amazing." –Lloyd Barnes Wackie's

"Legendary, strange, compelling music." –Mark Ainley, Honest Jon's

TRACKLISTING

- A1. Playing It Cool (1:59)
- A2. Playing It Right Dub (1:53)
- A3. Trust & Believe (3:37)
- A4. In I Dub (2:53)
- A5. California (2:59)
- A6. By Night Dub (2:53)
- B1. Not Good For Us (2:52)
- B2. Formula Dub (2:56)
- B3. Be What You Want To Be (2:39)
- B4. Be Good Dub (2:25)
- B5. I Can't Do Without You (1:59)
- B6. Still Need You Dub (2:01)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Keith Hudson's** *Playing It Cool & Playing It Right* was released in 1981 on the Joint International label, in NYC, with **Lloyd Bullwackie Barnes** as the executive producer.
- *Playing It Cool & Playing It Right* continues Hudson's psycho-acoustic journey into the abysses of existence, and overwhelms with the beauty of artistic self-empowerment.
- Rarely has a roots sound been made so electrifying, so expansive in all directions, so crystal clear, so bass-warm and echophonic as on these 30 minutes of music.

Press Contact: publicity@forcedexposure.com