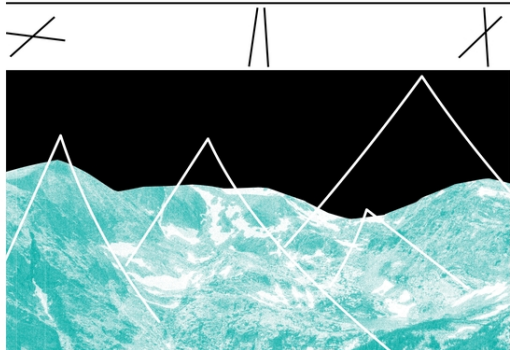


WE JAZZ
RECORDS 2024

BERKE CAN ÖZCAN
& JONAH PARZEN-JOHNSON

It
Was Always
Time



**BERKE CAN ÖZCAN &
JONAH PARZEN-JOHNSON**
It Was Always Time

Label

WE JAZZ

Format

LP

Catalog Number

WJLP 077LP

EAN

4062548098167



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Store Price

\$20.79

Release Date

11/01/24

Territory

NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre

FILE UNDER - O - JAZZ

WE
JAZZ

DESCRIPTION

It Was Always Time, the debut duo release from **Berke Can Özcan** and **Jonah Parzen-Johnson** on We Jazz Records, is a refreshing and full-throated expression of joy and curiosity. In a year when 76 countries hold national elections and listeners find themselves in an existential battle against apathy and cynicism, this effortlessly authentic album offers an innocent reminder that the antidote to stagnation is curiosity and the fuel for change is the joy of building something transformative together. In April 2022, Brooklyn based baritone saxophonist, Jonah Parzen-Johnson, found himself on a flight from New York to Istanbul to play a one-off duo concert with a veteran drummer and sound designer at the center of Istanbul's vibrant music scene, Berke Can Özcan. They met for the first time 30 minutes before soundcheck. The concert that followed could have been the culmination of years of collaboration. Both urgent and timeless, their musical partnership is instantly solid, innocent and joyful. Recorded across continents, time zones, and cultures, *It Was Always Time* meticulously builds on itself, weaving layers of found-sound samples over acoustic percussion to frame poignant saxophone melodies that melt into rich synth interludes. Although the album is almost completely improvised, the depth of texture and devotion to melody make it feel through-composed. From track to track, each musician places their trust in the other, and as ambition evolves into empathy, the whole becomes greater than the sum of its parts. This is not a protest album, or music that sets out to directly change the world. Rather, in the subtle way that only art is capable of, the music made by this international duo of strangers turned friends is a reminder: Be curious, find joy, build something better together. It's time. It was always time.

TRACKLISTING

- A1. Portrait Of a Brick
- A2. São Paulo
- A3. A Cloud
- A4. Folk Memory
- B1. The Saint
- B2. That's Not What This Is
- B3. The Others

HIGHLIGHTS

- *It Was Always Time*, the debut duo release from **Berke Can Özcan** and **Jonah Parzen-Johnson** on We Jazz Records, is a refreshing and full-throated expression of joy and curiosity.
- Recorded across continents, time zones, and cultures, *It Was Always Time* meticulously builds on itself, weaving layers of found-sound samples over acoustic percussion to frame poignant saxophone melodies that melt into rich synth interludes.
- Although the album is almost completely improvised, the depth of texture and devotion to melody make it feel through-composed. From track to track, each musician places their trust in the other.

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