

Lena : « The Uncertain Trail »

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CD + Digital



“The Uncertain Trail” is the third album by LENA, one of the many solo projects of Mathias Delplanque. It comes after “Lane” (2002) and “Floating Roots” (2004), two albums released on Quatermass, with which he earned an international reputation as an alchemist of transgenic dub – he was then described as the “best digidub producer out of the ~scape family” (Brainwashed) or as “the most interesting representative of the French dub stage” (Musiques et culture digitales).

This third album arose from a proposition by Thierry Arnold, head of the label Soudsaround. It gathers a set of unreleased tracks, composed between 2004 and 2006, when Mathias Delplanque went on many different trips abroad and worked in residence, navigating from one extreme to the other (Montréal/Bombay, for instance, but also New York/San Francisco...), with regular stays in Nantes, where he now lives. Mathias Delplanque always came back from these cities, where he actually lived or just transited, with sounds to inject in one of his compositions, thus creating a sort of improbable route between these fantastical cities.

Lena—the name is inspired from a character in Faulkner’s Light In August – has always linked music and roaming. “The Uncertain Trail” is a new wandering, notably more urban (or even sub-urban) than the preceding ones. It takes place along highways, close to ring roads, train stations, transit zones... In this album, Lena experiment many new aspects and ventures on new trails: dark and lame hip-hop, raw dub, crepuscular ambient... Lena invited a few peers: Ghislain Poirier, Hopen or regular Black Sifichi. Darker and more hypnotic than the previous ones, this album follows an uncertain trail, haunted by the ghost of an electronic Tom Waits or a dancing Spectre.

The name of the album comes from a painting by the famous American painter Ed Ruscha, which we are proud to be allowed to reproduce on the cover.

Mathias Delplanque was born in 1973, in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). He performs as Lena, Bidlo or Stensil, but also under his real name. His music is released on many labels: Quatermass, Soundsaround, Harmsonic, Mondes Elliptiques, Low Impedance Recordings, Arbose Recordings, Optical Sound, Insubordinations... Mathias Delplanque is presently working on Lena’s fourth album, a new project involving various famous musicians such as Rob Mazurek, Steve Arguelles, Charlie O, Black Sifichi, Daniel Givens, Man, Julien Jacob, etc...

Tracklisting

01. Entomodub 1 Remix
02. Periphery (Take Me There Mix) *
03. A Troll’s Trail
04. Saint-Urbain °
05. A 5th Step
06. Typewriter Ribbon (Liquid Paper Mix) *
07. Transfer
08. Déjà Vu #
09. Callings
10. Nizamuddin Station
11. Sassoon Docks
12. Ephémère

* Feat. Black Sifichi

° Coproduced with Ghislain Poirier

Additional sounds by Hopen

Contacts

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Sounds Around

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