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McCoy Tyner-Sahara



McCoy Tyner - Sahara on Mobile Fidelity 180g Numbered Limited-Edition 180g LP

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Sahara represents the best that jazz had to offer in the early '70s. Rooted in modality, McCoy Tyner's playing is thick, chromatic and cavernous. A prominent virtue of this album lies within its eclectic, aural landscape. For example, if you desire Tyner's infamous 'thunder' (chords) and lightning (right-hand runs), cue up "Ebony Queen" and "Rebirth" (Sonny Fortune's saxophone playing is absolutely scorching on these tracks!). Prefer some spiritually inspired solo piano? Then melt into the

mellow mood manifested on "A Prayer for My Family."

Looking for something different? Then experience the 23-minute title track, which has reedman, Sonny Fortune, playing flute, bassist, Calvin Hill, playing reeds, and drummer Alphonse Mouzon employing a variety of percussion effects. If all this isn't enough, on "Valley of Life," Tyner picks up a koto and produces a gentle, hypnotic impressionistic sketch, aided again by Fortune on flute. On Sahara, the musicians weren't afraid to wail spontaneously, yet Tyner maintains a clear focus on the effort and in doing so expanded the very definition of jazz itself. Mission accomplished.

Personnel: McCoy Tyner (piano, koto, flute, percussion); Sonny Fortune (soprano & alto saxophones, flute); Alphonse Mouzon (trumpet, reeds, drums, percussion); Calvin Hill (reeds, bass, percussion). Recorded at Decca Recording Studios, New York, New York in January 1972. This title will be out-of-print immediately... don't miss this one!

Track Listing:

Side A

1. Ebony Queen
2. A Prayer For My Family
3. Valley Of Life
4. Rebirth

Side B

5. Sahara