



## PRESS RELEASE



### THE SUN RA CENTENNIAL DREAM ARKESTRA UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MARSHALL ALLEN LIVE AT THE BABYLON



IOR CD/DVD 77122-9 LIMITED DELUXE EDITION

IOR CD 77122-2

#### DISC 1 CD

1. Astro Black
2. RA # 2
3. Saturn
4. Discipline 27B
5. Stardust
6. Care Free #2
7. Dancing Shadows
8. Satellites Are Spinning

#### DISC 2 DVD

1. Astro Black
2. RA #
3. Saturn
4. Discipline 27B
5. Sometimes I'm Happy
6. Care Free #2
7. Stardust
8. Unmask The Batman
9. Boma
10. Dancing Shadows
11. Satellites Are Spinning

Marshall Allen (dir, as evi, voc),

Tara Middleton (voc)  
Cecil Brooks (tr)  
Vincent Chancey (flh)  
Dave Davis (trb)  
Knoel Scott, (as, voc)  
James Stuart (ts)  
Danny Ray Thompson (bs)  
Farid Barron (p)  
Dave Hotep (g)

Tyler Mitchell (b)  
Stanley Morgan (congas, perc.)  
Elson Nascimento (surdo, perc)  
Wayne Anthony Smith Jr. (dr)

### THE SUN RA CENTENNIAL DREAM ARKESTRA UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MARSHALL ALLEN LIVE AT THE BABYLON

(IN+OUT Records)

Forever alterable, young again and freshly strengthened, the Sun Ra Arkestra under the direction of Marshall Allen presents itself on "Live at the Babylon" the 14-piece Centennial Dream Arkestra at Istanbul's Babylon music club. It is a landing to the spot on the hundredth birthday of its founder, Jack-of-all-trades Sun Ra, kicking off the jubilee tour 2014, which led the band around the globe. The ensemble sparks off with a briskness that is testimony to the timelessness and infinity of the mission.

Terrific talents grew up in the well-kept house of 90-year-old Maestro Marshall Allen in Philadelphia; e.g. piano player Farid Barron, Ra's current representative on planet Earth. Barron's exceptional sense of timing, phrasing and timbre puts him on the same level as piano players such as Art Tatum. He already contributed to the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra of Wynton Marsalis, before he started to travel to the opposite side of the jazz continuum. It was Allen, also, who discovered violin player and highly gifted vocalist Tara Middleton, whose vibrant and velvet, impressive alto voice is capable of claiming the chairs of two Arkestra legends; June Tyson and Art Jenkins. Within the sequence of brilliant solos, James Stuart

convinces with a mighty overblown, circular-breathing stream of strength on tenor saxophone. Band veterans present themselves exceptionally characteristically, for example Vincent Chancey, Sun Ra's favourite on



the French horn. On "Live at the Babylon", he displays archaic charisma in sounding like a siren's singing or conch shell trumpet. With Wayne Anthony Smith Jr. on the drums, Marshall Allen took in a young and versatile time-keeper, who is potent to act as the kicking and the supporting leg or to simultaneously provide a confident rhythm-base for the music-spectacle. The entire rhythm-section is classy and dives deep into the band's history, which always closely ties together place and time to gain singularity.

The jubilee-concert at the Babylon is an illustration of to the enthusiasm of the brothers Mehmet and Ahmet Uluğ. The tenacious Sun Ra fans indeed made it happen, to bring the Sun Ra Arkestra to Istanbul for the very first time on April 1990. Both were inexperienced promoters. Therefore, they drove the band on a flat bed trailer down the arterial road to Taksim-Square and the nearby concert hall they had booked. The unusual promotion campaign drew thousands of curious spectators. Sun Ra's blessing turned out to be fruitful. The concert was a great success. In consequence, the Uluğ brothers founded the music promotion enterprise "pozitif" and later on the Babylon. An Istanbul myth had come to life. The Beyoğlu district of Istanbul is flourishing, full of life, and atmosphere today. Therefore, this DVD/CD special

edition is dedicated to the late Mehmet Uluğ, whose untimely death occurred in 2012. Marshall Allen, Noel Scott and Elson Nascimento are the eyewitnesses within the Arkestra, who extend the grand moment of Istanbul into this truly amazing recording. Attracted by rhythm layers which reach into each other, the listener gets into the musical cosmos in a quite gentle way, as if sleepwalking. The pieces build upon each other and grow into each other. Micro-ton-sequences oscillate across the entire interplay of compositions, they emerge and dive, change perpetually, as if the tones were alchemical ingredients of a lively and ever more self-generating primeval soup. The merit goes to Marshall Allen, who is tirelessly evaluating and interpreting the immeasurable treasure of the tone-documents Sun Ra left behind. These recordings stem from the never-ending rehearsals in Sun Ra's headquarter, and their musical treasure has never before been unveiled in front of an audience, and also never before been recorded with decent quality. Being reconstructed from the original, compositions such as „Ra #2“ and „Carefree #2“ experience a splendid resurrection, be it in the live concert or on the recording "Live at the Babylon". – It is a sensation. It is Sun Ra rediscovered.



Also available on IN+OUT Records:



**SUN RA ARKESTRA**  
Under the Direction Of Marshall Allen  
Live At The Paradox

CD 77098-2