

DJ Katapila — *Aroo*



AWESOME
TAPES
FROM
AFRICA

01. Aroo (04:03)
02. African Techno (04:33)
03. Ghana Baby DJ (05:03)
04. Monkey (04:14)
CATALOG #: **ATFA023**
RELEASE DATE: 03/23/18
FORMAT: **LP/Digital**
DISCOUNT: **5% discount thru two weeks past street date**
LP BOX LOT: **25**
UNITS PER SET: **1xLP**
GENRE: **African/Dance/Techno**
KEY MARKETS: **NYC, LA, Chicago, SF, Miami**
VINYL NOT RETURNABLE
NO TERRITORY RESTRICTIONS



LP#616892564348

Selling Points:

- New original works, including popular new track "Monkey"
- Follows successful ATFA issue *Trotro* (ATFA019)
- Builds on Katapila's big year of Europe/UK shows
- Pressed at 45rpm for big sound

DJ Katapila's *Aroo* EP is the latest addition to the iconoclastic producer's catalog of fast-paced, pan-West African-influenced dance music. From a young age, Ishmael Abbey was a beloved local DJ in Accra, Ghana's competitive and rapidly-evolving music galaxy.

DJ Katapila's debut release with Awesome Tapes From Africa, 2016's reissue of *Trotro*, ignited international acclaim for the Ghanaian DJ and producer: The *New York Times*, Pitchfork, Resident Advisor and FACT heaped praise on his work. Katapila launched a touring career beyond his grueling schedule of all-night parties around Ghana's southern coast and neighboring countries, heading to Europe and the UK, where he performed at festivals and clubs the pasty two years. Katapila brought Ghana's street party culture to audiences overseas; a wave of joy and happy dancers were left in his wake. The song "Aroo" uses his earlier song "Cocoawra" as a jumping off point and expands upon its endearing quick-rhythmed interplay of vocal hiccups and percussive clinks. Katapila thinks of "Aroo" as a simple math equation: "Francophone rhythms plus techno equals so hot and danceable."

While traveling this past summer in Europe, he continued to work on the minimalist electronic music steeped in his hometown rhythms that has made him a growing and singular voice in West African music. Having never traveled outside his region before, the contemporary sounds of London impacted his sonic palette, triggering new song "African Techno." He explains, "In Europe and the UK they like these techno songs and house music. They have songs that sound like African music, and we have songs that sound like house music and techno music."

"Ghana Baby DJ" references his ongoing development of Ga dance music style *gbe ohe*. It also conjures his daughter's voice and inimitable vibe and blends it with the characteristic clave rhythm of this.

The EP's final cut is a track released with an eye-catching music video this summer called "Monkey." Following radioplay in Ghana and demand from fans online, this track makes its debut on vinyl.

Awesome Tapes From Africa is proud to present new music from this unmistakably original artist with an honesty and unpretentiousness that feels good at this current point in history.

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