

Robert Aiki Aubrey Lowe & Ariel Kalma—FRKWYS Vol. 12: We Know Each Other Somehow

We Know Each Other Somehow is the twelfth volume of FRKWYS, the music, film, and event series celebrating intergenerational collaboration. For this installment, RVNG Intl. offers a collection of original compositions by **Robert Aiki Aubrey Lowe** and **Ariel Kalma**.

In the four decades since Ariel Kalma's debut album, the privately pressed *Le Temps des Moissons*, the French-born Kalma musician has circulated corners of culture now legend: intrepid excursions as a spiritual explorer through India and New York in the 1970s, a studio staff position at the **Groupe de Recherches Musicales (Pierre Henry's famous music-concrete laboratory at INA studios)**, and training with music / mind / meditation institute **Arica**.

The genesis of this FRKWYS collaboration was inspired in part by Robert Aiki Aubrey Lowe's first release under his own name, the widely regarded full-length *Timon Inok Manta*, released for Type in 2012. The album paired two strobing, drone-oriented pieces in an uncategorizable combine of ambient synthesizer-music and pulsing rhythms. Lowe also performs his vocal-based compositions as **Lichens** and is a frequent collaborator with **Om** and **Nurse With Wound**.

Chance travel landed Lowe and Kalma in San Francisco at the same time shortly after the collaboration idea was seeded. Upon meeting, Kalma was endeared by Lowe's unique set-up, a portable modular synth unit housed in a vintage luggage case. Kalma recalled his own adventures when he traveled with just a Revox tape-delay machine and saxophone.

Plans were soon settled to record in Kalma's home studio in Main Arm, a remote community on the eastern Australian coast, around Lowe's serendipitous tour dates with Om. The pastoral life that Kalma had settled into eons earlier vastly informed the character of the recording. Similarly mined by Ariel Kalma in his 1978 album *Osmose*, itself a collaboration with sculptor **Richard Tinti**, field recordings are embraced throughout *We Know Each Other Somehow* as a key harmonic and timbral element with which to adorn.

Described by Lowe in the liner notes as the "collective voice," these birdsongs, creeks, tributaries and other ambient sonics of Main Arm appear throughout the album in processed and pure form. Wind instruments and signal sources are modulated, modified and sustained ad infinitum, cohering the choir of mother earth with the collaborators' own.

We Know Each Other Somehow is accompanied by a feature length exploratory documentary based on the collaboration. Titled *Sunshine Soup* and directed by multitalented designers / artists **Misha Hollenbach** and **Johann Rashid**, the non-linear film is keyed to the outer-boundary music created by Lowe and Kalma.

Following up his 2014 archival collection *An Evolutionary Music (Original Recordings 1972 - 1979)*, Kalma found an ideal collaborator in Lowe and an ideal opportunity to innovate in the field of modularly synthesized electronic music which he helped pioneer. Voyaging along parallel paths until now, *We Know Each Other Somehow* shows these artists summoning another world in an otherworldly part of the planet, merging the collective voice with their own.

Points of Interest

- Hometown: New York, NY and Paris, France
- Key Markets: New York, London, Paris, Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles, Chicago, Tokyo
- R.I.Y.L: Robert Lowe, Lichens, Ariel Kalma, modular synth séances, Charles Cohen, M. Geddes Gengras, Fourth World Music, Stan Brakhage, Ed Tannenbaum
- The twelfth volume of music, film, and event series **FRKWYS** celebrating intergenerational collaboration.
- *We Know Each Other Somehow* collects improvisatory compositions by electronic synth explorers **Robert Aiki Aubrey Lowe** and **Ariel Kalma** from a serendipitous recording session on the east coast of Australia.
- Robert Aiki Aubrey Lowe performs regularly with **Om** and **Nurse With Wound** while maintaining solo efforts under his own name and moniker **Lichens**
- *We Know Each Other Somehow* follows Ariel Kalma's archival work, *An Evolutionary Music*, released at the end of 2014 to wide acclaim.
- *Sunshine Soup*, a feature length exploratory documentary based on the collaboration directed by **Misha Hollenbach (P.A.M. / Perks & Mini)** and **Johann Rashid**, accompanies the vinyl and CD editions of *We Know Each Other Somehow*.

ROBERT AIKI AUBREY LOWE & ARIEL KALMA We Know Each Other Somehow



FRKWYS 

12

Track Listing

01. Magick Creek
02. Mille Voix
03. Gongmo Kalma Lowe
04. Strange Dreams
05. Wasp Happening
06. Miracle Mile
07. Palo Alter Reality (Bonus Track)

Info

Cat#—FRKWYS12
Artist—Robert Aiki Aubrey Lowe & Ariel Kalma
Title—We Know Each Other Somehow
Genre—Ambient / Modular Synthesizer Music / Devotional / Fourth World Music

Release dates

April 13, 2015 (UK)
April 14, 2015 (US / World)

Formats

DBL LP + DVD / CD + DVD / Digital
Vinyl Is Not Returnable

Box Lot

DBL LP + DVD—20
CD + DVD—40

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