

Album title: In the Wake of Memories

Artists: Mukdad Rothenberg Lankow

Catalog: CLE034

CLE034DI - UPC: 195081355948

CLE034CD – UPC: 711574908929

CLE034LP - UPC : 711574908912

Release date: Digital - 11 September 2020

Physical - 25 September 2020

#### Cover Art



#### Personnel

Wassim Mukdad - oud

David Rothenberg - clarinet

Volker Lankow - percussion

Composed and arranged by: Wassim Mukdad; David Rothenberg; Volker Lankow

Recorded: Studio Wong, Berlin Germany

Recording engineer: Andi Bückle

Mixed: David Cook, Area 52 Studios, Saugerties NY

Mastered: Jon Cohrs, Bear Call Mastering, Kingston NY

Produced: Christopher Nolan and David Rothenberg

Graphic Design: Andrew Nelson at Down in the Valley Creative, Kingston NY

All titles published by Mysterious Mountain Music BMI

© © 2020 - Nolan+Associates Productions LLC

#### Marketing summary

Mukdad Rothenberg Lankow translate years of experience into music that unfolds in a sense of hope.

Says Volker Lankow, "It comes from everywhere and nowhere."

First meeting at David Rothenberg's "Nightingales in Berlin" project, the three musicians recorded this improvised fusion of experiences with oud, clarinet and percussion. A meditation on survival and resilience, on empathy and love. Each musician, a master of his instrument, seamlessly interweaves phrases and nuance expressing pain and joy, expectation and relief. Wassim Mukdad is a refugee from Syria who escaped torture first to Istanbul now in Berlin. Volker Lankow worked with Medecins sans frontiere in crisis torn zones and now with mentally ill criminals. Rothenberg, an author and philosopher, brings his exploration of the idea of sound to this trio. This is an album of music from an entire region of the world, crossing cultural barriers and tribal sides.

Album title: In the Wake of Memories

Artists: Mukdad Rothenberg Lankow

Catalog: CLE034

DI and CD tracklist:

- |                                 |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Once upon a time in Damascus | QMPGD2000013 |
| 2. In the wake of memories      | QMPGD2000014 |
| 3. Wait for me                  | QMPGD2000015 |
| 4. Window in the rain           | QMPGD2000016 |
| 5. Pilgrimage with snakes       | QMPGD2000017 |
| 6. We cannot leave              | QMPGD2000018 |
| 7. Walking among ruins          | QMPGD2000019 |
| 8. Peshawar repose              | QMPGD2000020 |
| 9. Long night long ago          | QMPGD2000021 |
| 10. Next time in peace          | QMPGD2000022 |
| 11. Vafadar                     | QMPGD2000023 |

LP tracklist:

Side A

- |                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. In the wake of memories | QMPGD2000014 |
| 2. Wait for me             | QMPGD2000015 |
| 3. Window in the rain      | QMPGD2000016 |
| 4. Pilgrimage with snake   | QMPGD2000017 |

Side B

- |                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 5. Walking among ruins | QMPGD2000019 |
| 6. We cannot leave     | QMPGD2000018 |
| 7. Next time in peace  | QMPGD2000022 |
| 8. Vafadar             | QMPGD2000023 |

Liner notes

After the fourth time he was tortured Wassim Mukdad realized he had to leave Syria.

"I could see things getting much worse. Luckily, they never found out I was a musician. They knew I was a doctor and I kept my hands out of harms way." Trained in medicine, Wassim had volunteered to help the victims of the violence that had overtaken his homeland. An accomplished performer on the oud, he had put his love for music aside to help people.

Wassim began his arduous journey north in 2014. After two years working with USAID in Istanbul, he made his way to Berlin. A student of musicology at Humboldt University, He is not recognized as one of the most creative and promising oud players in Europe. "I don't consider myself an Arab musician or a Turkish musician. I play music shaped by an entire region of the world, crossing cultural barriers and tribal sides. Here in Berlin now, I am studying all this and how it connects to the music of the West."

Volker Lankow had worked for fourteen years as a nurse and project manager for Medecins sans Frontieres/Doctors Without Borders, choosing to work in zones of tough conflict like the one from which Wassim was able to escape. Now back in Berlin he works with mentally ill criminals for the German state. An accomplished percussionist he performs on frame drums and tabla among other instruments.

Wassim and Volker share years of rough experiences in conflict regions and in their playing together one hears a path toward clarity and beauty out of terrible shadows. "It is a delight to play with Volker, a percussionist who does not need to show off, who has nothing to prove."

Album title: In the Wake of Memories

Artists: Mukdad Rothenberg Lankow

Catalog: CLE034

Wassim Mukdad met Volker Lankow as part of David Rothenberg's "Nightingales in Berlin" project which documented the group of musicians' attempts to play live with the birds in the dark parks of Germany's capital city. Clarinetist and author, Rothenberg was inspired by the rapport these two offered to each other and got the trio into Berlin's Studio Wong for one perfect day when all this music was improvised.

Mukdad Rothenberg Lankow translate years of experience into music that unfolds with a worldwide sense of hope. Says Volker, "It comes from everywhere and nowhere."