



Pure Pleasure NM-1001

Weldon Irvine: Liberated Brother

Format: 1LP 180g 33rpm / standard sleeve Release date: 01.06.2019

Manufacturer: Pure Pleasure Original label: Nodlew Music Genre: Jazz

Weldon Irvine's debut as a leader remains one of the most fiercely idiosyncratic electric jazz outings of the early '70s. Innovative not only for its moody, nuanced jazz-funk sensibility, "Liberated Brother" also translates the uncommonly strong passion of Irvine's political and philosophical views into its grooves, creating music of rare sincerity and ambition. While the record's first-half features longer, more meditative songs, like the Latin-inspired title tune and "Blues Wel-Don", the second side of "Liberated Brother" commands the most attention. With sterling contributions from guitarist Tommy Smith, bassist Roland Wilson, and drummer Napoleon Revels-Bey, cuts like "Mr. Clean" and "Sister Sanctified" (later sampled by Boogie Down Productions for the rap classic "My Philosophy") achieve a deeply funky consciousness forged from elements of jazz, soul, and psychedelia; "Juggah Buggah" even features Irvine on Moog synthesizer, further expanding the LP's cosmic reach.

"Liberated Brother" - Weldon Irvine (keyb); James Stroud (ts); Preston Williams (flh); Tommy Smith (el-g); Roland Wilson (el-b); Chipper Lyles, Napoleon Revels (dr, perc)