

RONE

Album_Room With A View - Cat# : IF1057

Release date: 24th April 2020

LP – 3516628312311 / CD – 3516628312427

infiné



RONE_ Room With A View

- 1_Lucid Dream - 04:54
- 2_La Marbrerie - 06:22
- 3_Sophora Japonica - 02:47
- 4_Ginkgo Biloba - 03:31
- 5_Nouveau Monde - 06:45
- 6_Room With A View - 03:31
- 7_Le Crapaud Doré - 03:30
- 8_Liminal Space - 04:05
- 09_Human - 06:55
- 10_Babel - 04:18
- 11_Esperanza - 04:22
- 12_Raverie - 07:56
- 13_Solastalgia - 04:00

We live in times where facts don't seem to matter much anymore. Let's hope that French writer **Alain Damasio** is right when he claims that art can change perception and ideas much more profoundly than science and information – a thought he expressed in a TV discussion with scientist **Aurelien Barrau** on the imminent end of the world. It inspired „**Nouveau Monde**“, a key piece of Rone's new album, with their voices appearing throughout the track. It doesn't have to be the end of the world they say, but we need to wake up: „*It's just a matter of consuming a little less, damn it.*“

Rone is electronic producer Erwan Castex and his fifth album is titled „**Room With A View**“, which marks a major moment in the Frenchman's career. The album was produced alongside a live show commissioned by the **Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris** and developed together with choreography collective **(LA) HORDE** and 20 dancers of the Ballet National de Marseille. This new kind of collaborative approach allowed Rone to produce his most sincere and far-reaching music in some time. Inspired by discussions of *collapsologie* and climate change, „Room With A View“ offers food for thought on how to deal with one of the most pressing issues of humanity.

„Room With A View“ sees Rone returning to his musical roots and the set-up of his early albums: purely electronic, solitarily conceived without any musical collaborators. At the same time, he was able to leave his comfort zone through a new kind of artistic liaison. The production of the corresponding show inspired the album and vice versa, one fed into the other. „Room With A View“ works perfectly as a standalone album, still the outcome is a firmly intertwined piece of modern dance and electronic music that comes with a more serious goal than mere musical innovation.

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After receiving carte blanche by the Théâtre du Châtelet, Rone chose to work with choreography collective (LA) HORDE because he admired their political and DIY approach as well as their ability to communicate a subject through movement of bodies. In France, the term „*collapsologie*“ is ubiquitous, meaning a school of thought that predicts the end of the world as we know it. Natural disasters everywhere and courageous kids united through „Fridays For Future“ remind us of the threat of climate change and urge us to act. „Room With A View“ is a reflection on this. „*I want to start a conversation without teaching a lesson,*“ Erwan Castex describes the thoughts behind it. „*We are all part of the problem, so we should all be part of the solution. The show will probably raise more questions than it can answer, but that is okay.*“

„Room With A View“ was written and produced in 2019 within nine months. Its foundation was laid during a stay at the former house of writer George Sand in the rural area of *Nohant*. It has become a habit for Rone to leave his home, family and friends behind for a while when working on new music. This time he happened to choose the place where *Frédéric Chopin* composed a third of his music. Some of the albums track titles reference trees in the mansion’s garden, others point to environmental themes or nod to the development of the dance piece. Musically, Rone manages to let his trademark sound shine in a new light, pleasing early fans as well as every electronica enthusiast. Typically melodic beats like „*Ginkgo Biloba*“ nestle against tracks that exhibit classic influences from Boards of Canada („*La Marbrerie*“) to SAW-era Aphex Twin („*Raverie*“), euphoric dancefloor rhythms sit next to contemplative synth work. Tracks like „*Sophora Japonica*“ showcase Rone’s mastership in atmosphere, which sometimes requires no drums at all. Elsewhere, Rone is clearly reviving the club-centric vibe of „*Tohu Bohu*“ and experimenting with elements of dub. It all makes for an adventurous and rewarding listen.

Most importantly, Rone is redefining the notion of „organic“ in electronic music through use of field and voice recordings. Be it his own child chattering, **Aurelien Barrau** or **Alain Damasio** debating, or the dance troupe rehearsing and discussing the show – because the writing process of the album was very machine focused, it seemed appropriate to feed back a human touch into the music and to still have bodies involved. Thus „*Esperanza*“ uses the steps of the dancers as a rhythm to start a new track, while in „Human“ they serve as a choir. This idea of extended human collaboration becomes apparent also on the album cover.

The title „Room With A View“ is quite open, offering many different readings. It has personal connotations for Rone, but it’s also connected to how we observe phenomena in the modern world. Whether through small screens or social networks, everyone is an observer. Everyone has their own perspective on the world, and thus the power to change it. This is the message Rone is sharing while observing from his own room.

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About Rone:

Erwan Castex lives in Montreuil near Paris. From his debut album „Spanish Breakfast“ (2009) on, he has carved out a very personal and recognizable sound under his Rone moniker while pursuing constant evolution. „Tohu Bohu“ (2012) led away from the club focused minimalist aesthetic of its predecessor. Rone found his way in melody-driven, cheerful but melancholy electronica, a style he combined with organic and acoustic influences and many featured artists on his next albums „Creatures“ (2015) and „Mirapolis“ (2017). Among his frequent collaborators were Bryce Dessner (The National), John Stanier (Battles) and Gaspar Claus, plus a wide array of other guest instrumentalists and vocalists. Recently he worked with French icons Michel Gondry and Jean-Michel Jarre, supported the short movie „Nature Now“ starring Greta Thunberg with his music and wrote the score to Frédéric Farrucci’s film „La nuit venue“. Rone’s music is released by French label InFiné.

About Alain Damasio:

Alain Damasio is a French writer of sci-fi and fantasy. In 2008, he lends his voice to Bora, a piece of music by Rone. He also works as a scriptwriter for comics, radio fictions, movie and TV series. His Novels (The Outer Zone, The Wind-walkers, The Stealthies) have been translated in English. They deal with cities of the future and their social structure.

About Alain Barrau

Aurélien Barrau is a French physicist and philosopher, specialized in astroparticle physics, black holes and cosmology. He has obtained new results in quantum cosmology and about the evaporation of quantum black holes. His interview with Alain Damasio for Frederic Taddei’s broadcast on "Fin Du Monde" is reused on "Nouveau Monde".