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## Koonyum Sun – Album Review -

 April 21st, 2010 by RSLe'Roy



If you haven't been paying attention, Xavier Rudd is back. Now with his new Band Izintaba, featuring Tio Moloantoa on bass and Andile Nqubezelo playing percusslon for his 6th studio album titled "Koonyum Sun." This is their first album since they started touring together last year.

It has been 613 days, or 1 year 8 months and 4 days, since Rudd dropped "Dark Shades of Blue." Dark Shades is an apt adjective for his previous album. That CD was a ride through the emotions Rudd was feeling himself. I heard and read some criticisms about the tone and feel of the CD from friends who were fans, and in different articles because of the departure from the more upbeat, brighter energy which were always apparent in his work. "...He is climbing up the mountain and searching for the other side seeking shelter from the rain and the from pain he feels inside..." (Shiver). Regardless of what we're used to, we all have times and moments we can relate to, which parallel his 5th CD.

Have no fear.


I'll admit my bias from years of listening; however, whether you've experienced Rudd before is secondary to the potential of this album. If you listen, you will love. The upbeat, light, bright moods and melodies are back. Stronger than ever is a funky groove, only Izantaba could provide, to make you move and put a smile on your face and a light in your soul. "Well I'm packing my things in my bag today Heading south to my country again Summer is coming, it's time to smile..." (Time to Smile).

The synergy between these three brilliant minds and exceptional artists is staggering. This CD is a sprout from the seed that was only planted last year, and already expectations have been surpassed; the beauty of the fully bloomed flower is lost to the horizon and we can only hope Rudd, Moloantoa, and Nqubezelo nourish their talent and desires to grow to the Koonyum Sun and past and carry us with them

Ryan Le'Roy

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