SJB SELECTION

REVIEW · JAZZ

Sun for Someone | Oscar Jerome

“Sun for Someone” does not simply remind us that the Sun will rise tomorrow. It confronts us with something far more uncomfortable: it may continue to rise magnificently without us.

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The Sun will keep rising even when we are no longer here. It is difficult to imagine such an unsettling thought hidden inside such a luminous song.

“Sun for Someone” was written at the end of 2019, when the debate around the climate crisis was particularly intense. Oscar Jerome, however, turned the usual perspective upside down: we keep talking about saving the planet, but perhaps the planet could survive our absence perfectly well.

The Earth was here before us.

The Sun will most likely carry on doing its job after us.

And that thought gives the song its **luminous darkness**.

The music refuses the weight of an apocalyptic song. Oscar Jerome comes from London’s jazz scene and his experience with KOKOROKO, allowing jazz, soul and Afrobeat to get their hands dirty with one another. The guitar flows, the groove breathes, the music almost smiles.

Underneath, however, the message **beats quietly**.

And the longer we listen, the more a **bitter aftertaste** emerges.

It is like a perfectly bright day when, only after a few minutes, we notice a dark cloud forming on the horizon.

That contradiction is precisely what makes “Sun for Someone” more interesting than an environmental manifesto. The track does not scream the emergency in our faces. It does something more subtle: it lets us in through the groove and only afterwards shows us what is hiding behind it.

The video plays with the same ambiguity. The dancing continues while animal figures watch human obliviousness unfold.

The image is simple and savage: **we keep the party going while nature watches.**

Jerome introduces another crack into the argument. In his perspective, the ecological crisis cannot be reduced to a moral competition between virtuous people and guilty ones. Politics, economic conditions and inequality make everything dirtier, more uncomfortable and less suitable for slogans.

And so the Sun in the title gradually changes meaning.

At first it sounds like a promise.

Then it becomes a warning.

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LISTEN

Sun for Someone — Oscar Jerome — is in our playlist Soul Jazz & Velvet Grooves.

Oscar Jerome · *Breathe Deep* (2020). Updated every Friday. Selected by ear.

LISTEN FIRST. SELECT SECOND.