

BILLY COBHAM 'TOTAL ECLIPSE VINYL RECORD' (ATCO RECORDS/SPEAKERS CORNER RECORDS/GERMAN IMPORT)

In 1974 the Panamanian American jazz drummer, composer and bandleader BILLY COBHAM released his 2nd album Total Eclipse, which now has been carefully remastered by using pure analogue components only and re-released on vinyl by SPEAKERS CORNER RECORDS. I was actually not familiar with this album, but after listening to it, I was really asking myself what on earth just happened and how would I need to describe this record, because there is so much to say about this album, even 47 years after its release, Total Eclipse still will move people to think about it! Besides Billy on drums, the album featured many more musicians, including a few well-known, such as MICHAEL BRECKER (flute, sax), MILCHO LEVIEV (keys), RANDY BRECKER (trumpet, flugelhorn), ALEX BLAKE (bass), JOHN ABERCROMBIE (guitar), GLENN FERRIS (bass trombone) and more. The music is extremely complex and is basically experimental instrumental jazz with heavy rock and progressive rock parts as well, and it is not for the people who want to listen to laid-back late night relaxing music I can assure you. This is one of the wildest and weirdest instrumental jazz albums I have ever heard and I was really not familiar with it before despite the fact that my father in law is a huge fan of jazz, including the extreme experimental complex side of jazz. The album is rocking out a few times quite hard in an almost psychedelic extreme progressive rockstyle, so this is really heavy stuff and very original, and it surely must have made FRANK ZAPPA interested back then! This is one of those records you need to listen to over and over again, because every time you discover something new. Open-minded prog and jazz fans reunite on this album and I can therefore easily recommend it to check out in case you're fed up with all the polished music that was released after the release of this album. The vinyl album is available through: <https://www.jpc.de/?lang=en> (Europe) and <http://www.acousticsounds.com> (USA).

(Points: 8.5 out of 10)