



Jawa

Last Breaths from Aleppo

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The rich musical Sufi tradition has been transmitted orally in Aleppo for decades. Jawa's mission is to preserve this heritage, which has been threatened by the Syrian war. The Sufi masters, who kept the secrets of this musical tradition, are gradually disappearing from the scene, threatening to lose a treasure of songs forever. Jawa Band presents the traditional musical pieces from its personal perspective and its own vision, while preserving the classical way of performing Sufi muwashahat with its complex rhythms and oriental maqams.

As guardians of this rich cultural heritage, Jawa revives the music and does so in a contemporary way. Originally, Sufi music was not played on instruments, but by doing so, Jawa offers a new and more contemporary approach. It is a project of preservation, but also of resistance. They refuse to see a tradition gradually disappear without trying to save it themselves.

Sufi whirling is a form of meditation which is still practiced by the Sufi Dervishes of the Mevlevi order. It is a commonplace meditation practice, through which dervishes aim to reach the source of all perfection. This is sought thru leaving behind one's nafs or personal desires, by paying attention to the music, focusing on God, and spinning one's body in repetitive circles, which has been seen as a symbolic imitation of planets within the Solar System orbiting the sun. A dervish practices multiple rituals, the primary of which is the dhikr, a remembering of Allah. The dhikr involves recitation of devotional Islamic prayer. This dhikr comes with dancing and whirling, in order to reach a state of "ecstatic trances".

Band member

Hatim Aljamel	dervish
Khaled Alhafez	singing
Marwan Fakhir	violin
Simon Leleux	percussion
Tammam Alramadan	nay
Yousef Zayed	oud
Youssef Nassif	qanun

Mixer

Jeremy Saive

aufnahmestudio

Muziekpublique, Molieère
Theater/Jeremy Saive

Mastering

Jeremy Saive

Cover Artwork

Desirée De Winter

Tracklist

- | | | |
|-----|---|-------|
| 1. | Hijaz Hamayun Pesrev
M: Veli Dele | 01:58 |
| 2. | Eishqo Aljamal
M: Traditional | 02:22 |
| 3. | Allamo almahboba hajri
M: Traditional | 04:17 |
| 4. | Hajarni Habibi
M: Traditional | 03:49 |
| 5. | Nakhat alrihla
M: Yousef Zayed | 03:15 |
| 6. | Billahi wa zahi aljabin
M: Traditional | 03:28 |
| 7. | Yasafa Al-Azman
M: Traditional | 02:34 |
| 8. | Shefaa
M: Marwan Fakhir | 03:01 |
| 9. | Ayuha Al-uzzal
M: Traditional | 04:03 |
| 10. | Ya murshidana lilhaq
M: Traditional | 02:00 |
| 11. | Taba waqti
M: Traditional | 03:24 |
| 12. | Bahth an alzzaman aldaee
M: Tammam Alramadan | 02:50 |
| 13. | Habbat Riaho AL-Ahiba
M: Traditional | 03:27 |
| 14. | Munyati Sida Almilah
M: Omar Al-Batsh | 03:04 |
| 15. | Qanon sarih
M: Youssef Nassif | 04:35 |
| 16. | Bahi alsana
M: Traditional | 03:08 |
| 17. | Dari man tahwaho dari
M: Traditional | 03:06 |
| 18. | Yaghussna banen
M: Traditional | 02:02 |