

PRESS RELEASE

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Mark Guiliana *the sound of listening*

'the sound of listening' is the new album from Mark Guiliana, one of the most influential, virtuosic and commanding drummers of our time, featuring Shai Maestro, Jason Rigby and Chris Morrissey.

Following his acclaimed quartet albums *'Jersey'* and *'Family First'*, this third release is everything you'd expect from Mark Guiliana, whilst taking the music in new directions we've never seen from him before. In complete contrast to his latest BEAT MUSIC! work, **'the sound of listening'** (intentionally lower case) is a deeply honest and expressive album by a musician who knows where he's headed and what he wants to say with people he deeply trusts.

The title and idea behind 'the sound of listening' is taken from the book 'Silence' by Thích Nhất Hạnh, which considers, as Mark explains, *'the inner silence required to truly observe the world.'* In *'the sound of listening'* the entirety of compositional breadth of Mark's acoustic and electronic influences is brought together, interspersed with miniature vignettes in a unified voice: the album speaks of Mark's own journey and thinking with his relationship to music - to see the world and his presence within it through a zoomed out lens, where differences are unified and perspectives aligned. Track titles including *'a path to bliss'*, and *'the most important question'*, reflect Mark's passionate response to his own exploration and path to serenity, which takes centre stage in this meticulously thoughtful, introspective album.

Over the course of his career, Mark has built a vast cult-like following for his own projects as well as with key collaborators including Avishai Cohen, Brad Mehldau, Gretchen Parlato, Meshell Ndegeocello, the late great David Bowie, and more recently St. Vincent. *'the sound of listening'* reaffirms his authority as an artist where the expectation is there's no expectation.

Mark Guiliana drums (synthesizers - 3, 5, 7; drum programming - 7; percussion - 10)

Chris Morrissey bass

Shai Maestro piano (mellotron - 1, 5, 7; ampliceleste - 1, 5, 7; fender rhodes - 2)

Jason Rigby tenor saxophone (bass clarinet - 1, 3, 5, 7; clarinet - 1, 5; flute - 5)

All music composed by Mark Guiliana

(HEERNT Music, BMI)

Produced by Mark Guiliana

Executive producer Dave Stapleton

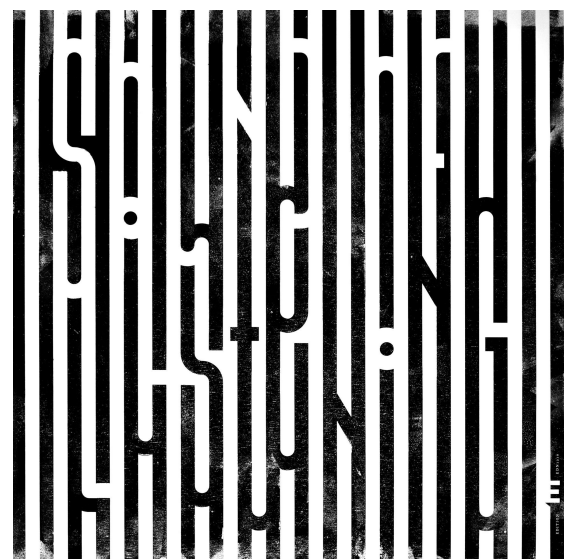
Release date: 7 Oct 2022

SINGLES:

'a path to bliss' **EDNDS12101** - June 17, 2022

'the most important question' **EDNDS12102** - July 22, 2022

'the sound of listening' **EDNDS12103** - September 23, 2022



TRACKLISTING:

01. a path to bliss
02. the most important question
03. a way of looking
04. our essential nature
05. the courage to be free
06. everything changed after you left
07. the sound of listening
08. under the influence
09. practicing silence
10. continuation

KEY INFO:

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LP Cat number: EDNLP1210
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CD Cat number: EDN1210

**READ MORE // Mark Guiliana and ‘the sound of listening’**

Mark Guiliana has built a vast, cult-like following around him, regarded by many as one of the most compelling and expressive drummers of his generation, but his limits are not bound to the drums — he’s a composer, deep thinker, and an artist with a passionate drive to be creative and honest above anything else. With a 20 year career already behind him, Mark is more motivated than ever to follow his artistic bliss.

Since this band’s inception, Mark’s own confidence as a composer has increased, allowing him to lean into that side of his expression more and more. With a previous clear separation between his acoustic and electronic projects, ‘the sound of listening’ allows both to come together, to blend in a more unified expressive voice. *“My goal is to present an honest representation of all of my influences. I want everything to be available.”*

This album features two distinct compositional approaches, carefully interspersed throughout. Half of the songs present the quartet in its most raw form — interactive and improvisational, fresh off an inspiring week at the Village Vanguard. The other half of the songs are through-composed vignettes which take advantage of the quartet’s expanded sonic possibilities, introducing additional keyboard and woodwind textures. *“I hope the alternating presentation of these elements draws attention to the contrast in approach, while still maintaining the playful and interconnected spirit of the quartet.”*

There is no shortcut to the level of connectivity and telepathic interplay found on this album. As Mark explains; *“From the beginning, this band has been built on a strong foundation of personal relationships. Chris, Shai and Jason are friends first. The countless hours we’ve spent together, both on and off stage, have led to a deep bond that inevitably makes its way into the music in ways that continue to surprise me.”*

The title itself then perfectly summarises this, as Mark explains; *“I came across the title very specifically in Thich Nhat Hanh’s book ‘Silence’. In it, he details the fundamental qualities of sound, one of which is silence. He poetically refers to this silence as the sound of listening. This passage deeply resonated with me. In order to be truly listening to someone else, or the world around you, you need to have a silence inside yourself. So the sound of listening is that inner silence and that stillness... which is a lifetime’s work, you know”. But there’s also a dual meaning: “With so much room inside this music for improvisation and interaction, the sound that is created when we play together is the sound of listening in a much more literal sense, as in, we could not be making the choices we’re making if we weren’t listening.”*

‘the sound of listening’ is a defining and landmark album for Mark. It’s an album that succeeds in its expression, with the connection of the humans who play music with a desire to be honest and truthful. It’s not just an album made by a drummer or even an album for drummers. It’s a confident and expressive statement by a musician

who understands how to both manage and defy expectations, to go where he wants with the people he deeply trusts.

Tour Dates:

14 Oct Teatro Pavon, Madrid (ES)
15 Oct La Nau, Barcelona (ES)
16 Oct Auditorio, Matera (IT)
18 Oct Moods, Zurich (CH)
19 Oct Jazz en Tête, Clermont-Ferrand (FR)
20 Oct New Morning, Paris (FR)
21 Oct CRR Concerthall, Istanbul (T)
23 Oct Jazz Café, London (UK)
26 Oct Blue Note Milano, Milan (IT)
27 Oct LantarenVenster, Rotterdam (NL)
28 Oct Tivoli Vredenburg, Utrecht (NL)
29 Oct Flagey, Brussels (BEL)
30 Oct Gretchen, Berlin (DE)

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