

# KHOURY/SEHNAOUI/YASSIN

## TAQATO3

LP / Digital

Listen! We insist. This is improvised sound that is based in the heritage and the heart of Mike Khoury (violin), Sharif Sehnaoui (guitar, percussion, bouzouki) and Raed Yassin (bass). TAQATO3 was recorded live with no overdubs in Bustrou Palace in Beirut, still surviving despite a civil war, foreign incursion, and the 2020 Beirut harbor explosion.

In 2018, Khoury, Sehnaoui, and Yassin found themselves together following the Irtijal Festival. TAQATO3 is executed at the very precipice of improvisation but captures the spirit of the palace and the essence of the moment. The sonics fill the recording. It seems almost in unison.

The tension is palpable, but the pieces seem to breathe with an intensity that writhes with composure. This exchange occurs between the musicians and the space. It doesn't seem hyperbolic to suggest that a collective consciousness of the people of Beirut can be heard in these pieces.

Khoury, who is also featured on Porcelain Hammer's 'Born For Years,' and Fellahin's 'Live at Space Mountain,' has worked in duet with percussionist Ben Hall and dancer choreographer Leyya Tawil.

Sehnaoui is one of the principals behind Beirut's long-running Irtijal Festival of Improvised Music and is a key member of A-Trio with Yassin and trumpeter Mazen Kerbaj and the ensemble Karkhana.

Yassin is a bassist and visual artist. His work often examines narratives within a collective context. He is currently based in Berlin where he has his art practice and production company.

In absolute terms, all improvisation is based upon previous endeavor, TAQATO3 is a moment or clarity for and between each musician on this masterful recording.

Label: Twenty One Eighty Two Recording Company  
Catalog #: kHz – 1014  
Distro: 2182 / Forced Exposure / Sound Ohm  
MSRP: \$28.00 / Wholesale: \$18.00  
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Label/Distro/Press:  
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"We had some worries before we started playing in Beirut...

We thought that our work would end up getting us into trouble... you know, people accusing us of destroying music, of being crooks who were just pretending that we knew what we were doing. Eventually, those fears did come true, but most often we were just told that we should go back to school and learn how to play properly." – Sharif Sehnaoui

"I am an experimental composer, violinist/violist, and improviser deeply influenced by the Detroit and Arab-diasporic musical traditions. Inspired by my culture as an Arab-American, I center my work as an experimental composer with that of the Arab-American community." – Mike Khoury

### TITLE: TAQATO3

Artist: KHOURY/SEHNAOUI/YASSIN  
Format: Ltd Vinyl /500  
Genre: Experimental (instrumental)

### TRACK LIST:

1. 3ibara – 6:10
2. Ard – 6:24
3. Liqaa – 6:17
4. 3amar – 4:35
5. Shaddeh – 11:44
6. Ofok – 4:57