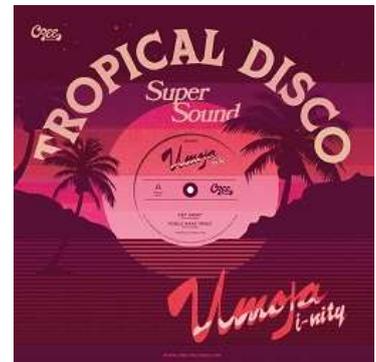


BEAR FAMILY RECORDS



PRODUCT INFO (Vinyl) April 20, 2018

Artist **Umoja i-nity**
Title **Feel The Groove**
Label Cree Records / Bear Family Productions
Catalog no. CRS510 Price code: CEP
EAN 5397102005107
Format 12" EP (45 RPM) in disco sleeve
Genre Funk/Soul, Afrobeat/Disco
no. of tracks 4 22:06 mns.
release date April 20, 2018



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RECORDS

A DIVISION OF BEAR FAMILY PRODUCTIONS

IM VERTRIEB VON
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INFO:

- **Band with members from Ghana, Liberia and Trinidad.**
- **Mixture of afrobeat, disco, funk and Caribbean influences.**
- **Very rare original 12".**
- **Supplemented by previously unreleased recordings.**

At the beginning of the 1980s, Fifi Yawson and some other members of the Ghanaian band, Gem Movement, moved to the city of Hanover in Germany. There they met the Trinidadian drummer Martin James who had previously played with the 20th Century Steelband in England for several years.

Thanks to his work as a studio musician, Martin was well connected in the Hanoverian music scene where he met sound engineer Thomas Rugel during a recording session. Together with the Ghanaians Fifi Yawson, Francis Dansei, Sam Asante and Tom Blay they formed the group Umoja i-nity. Other members of the band were Christine Clinton and Nyemah George Williams (who both had previously worked with Hugh Masekela and Miriam Makeba) as well as Ingo Erlhoff and Jochen Rose from Germany.

In autumn 1982, Thomas Rugel recorded the band's debut album, a mixture of afrobeat, funk, disco and Caribbean influences, at the UTV Studio in Hanover. In April 1983 the 12" *Feel The Groove / Foxy Sourcy Lady* appeared on the local GeeBeeDee label which was more specialized in Pop music and 'Neue Deutsche Welle'.

Despite a tour of Germany and some TV appearances in the spring of 1983 the band remained an insider's tip, and the sales of the first maxi were rather poor.

Negotiations with the Teldec, and Deutsche Grammophon record companies to release the album on a major record label failed. After the lack of success, the band dissolved shortly afterwards and the master tapes of the unreleased LP disappeared in Thomas Rugel's archive - until some of them see the light of day on Cree Records for the first time!

Fifi Yawson: Keyboards, Synthesizers, Vocals and Percussion, **Sam Asante:** Saxophone, **Nyemah G. Williams:** Vocals and Lead Guitar, **Francis Dansei:** Bass and Percussion, **Christine Clinton:** Vocals, **Tom Blay:** Congas, Timbales and Percussion, **Martin James:** Drums and Percussion

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BEAR FAMILY RECORDS



TRACK LISTING

12" EP:

Get Away • Fools Have Tried • Feel The Groove • Foxy Sourcy Lady

ALSO AVAILABLE

Ruby & The Mudflaps / Mel Canady
Breezy / Do The Boogie

7" Single in Bildhülle
Cree CRS508 CRS



Michael Boothman & Family Tree
Tabu / So Dey Say

7" Single in Bildhülle
Cree CRS508 CRS



Leston Paul
Let's Party Tonight

12"-EP (45 RPM)
in "Disco"-hülle
Cree CCRS512 CEP

