

# KOMPAKT

# KOMPAKT

DISTRIBUTION

WERDERSTRASSE 15-19  
50672 KÖLN GERMANY  
FON +49-221-94995-0 FAX -150  
DISTRIBUTION@KOMPAKT.FM

**artist:**

JOHN TEJADA

**title:**

SIGNS UNDER TEST

**label:**

KOMPAKT

**format:**

2xLP+CD / CD

**cat.no. + barcode:**

KOMPAKT CD 119 - 880319097928

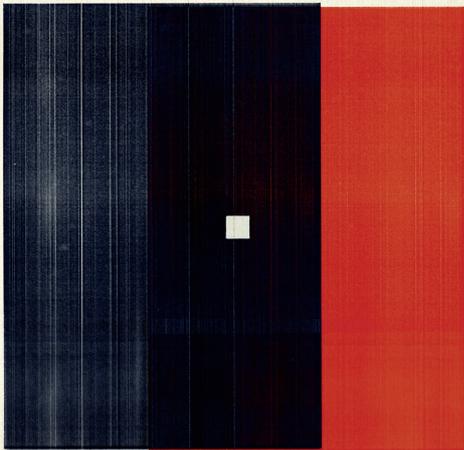
KOMPAKT 321 - 880319098833

**release date:**

2nd FEBRUARY 2015

**worldwide distribution:**

KOMPAKT DISTRIBUTION

**cover artwork:****sales information:**

Following his much-acclaimed full-length „The Predicting Machine“ (KOMPAKT 267 CD 102) and a slew of pop-infused 12“ singles - „We Can Pretend“ (KOMPAKT 286) and „Somewhere“ (KOMPAKT 264) -, LA-based synth mastermind JOHN TEJADA returns with new album SIGNS UNDER TEST: comprised of all-new material, this latest effort sees the studio wizard digging deeper into his modules, unearthing particularly dreamy tracks that rank among John's most accomplished work to date.

From the get-go, SIGNS UNDER TEST presents itself as a whole new ball of wax, reaching even further into the depths of JOHN TEJADA's hot-wired synth machinery, while cranking up the already stunning levels of musicality on display in his oeuvre. Opener TWO 0 ONE serves as a prime example for the sonic aplomb in place, thanks to its beautifully rendered melodies and finely tuned textures – a perfect storm made of cosy melancholy and celestial bliss. This expertly wrought piece serves as a particularly strong entry point for the album, setting the bar high for its successors.

An unabashedly brilliant listen, the album continues its thrilling journey with existential bleepfest Y 0 WHY and the bass-heavy BEACHT, followed by the intricately arpeggiated R.U.R. and brooding electronica vignette VAALBARA. The second part is ringed in by the undulating CRYPTOCHROME - another proof for JOHN TEJADA's uncanny ability to craft tracks that operate as distinguished bouncers as well as introspective meditations. The deliberate vivacity of connecting cuts RUBRIC and PENUMBRA only confirms the growing suspicion that this might be a timeless masterpiece we're dealing with.

As gorgeous as it sounds, texture isn't the only star here: a surprisingly diverse set of rhythm patterns suffuses the mesmerizing synth licks - take for example the multilayered ENDORPHINS effortlessly switching between straight techno stylings and vintage breakbeat ornaments. Meanwhile, electronic landscape painting MEADOW purrs away on its road to redemption, priming the listener for closing cut HEAVE IN SIGHT, an atmospherically rich composition that marries abstract storytelling with a flurry of reversed synth sounds.

„There's a bit more dreamy tape wobble going on throughout“, says the producer about his latest effort, „as I've gone quite analog tape with my delays and patches - on the verge of actually being broken, which gives them a nice character.“ It also might explain the air of intimacy surrounding the album - a quite personal listening experience taking the listener up close with its details and idiosyncracies, „maybe even more than before, as I've tried to cut out distractions and really focus on the production.“

The result is a record that is not meant to be trendy, even though it's a product of analog hardware connoisseurship: „Everything is built from the ground up using hardware synths - mostly analog, but that's a bit annoying to say nowadays. It's not a record that fits in with any current stuff, but something that hopefully holds up as it ages. Something that hopefully reveals more on repeated listens.“ In our humble opinion, this mission has been more than accomplished with SIGNS UNDER TEST.

**tracklisting:**

01/A1. TWO 0 ONE  
02/A2. Y 0 WHY  
03/A3. BEACHT  
04/B1. R.U.R.  
05/B2. VAALBARA  
06/C1. CRYPTOCHROME  
07/C2. RUBRIC  
08/C3. PENUMBRA  
09/D1. ENDORPHINS  
10/D2. MEADOW  
11/D3. HEAVE IN SIGHT

- [ The latest full-length effort from LA-based synth mastermind JOHN TEJADA
- [ An unabashedly dreamy collection of 11 expertly crafted cuts that rank among the artist's best work to date
- [ 2xLP edition pressed on 180gr audiophile vinyl, including a CD of the entire album