

SAM DEW BIO

Sam Dew's debut album *MOONLIT FOOLS* is the latest and most fascinating chapter yet in the singer/songwriter's impressive career thus far, a left-of-center R&B album that digs into the genre's sonic roots while subtly flipping convention on its head. Along with contributions from some of music's leading lights, Dew has crafted an earthy and otherworldly record that leaves a mark on the listener long after it's over.

"I tried to translate some things I've seen into sonic textures," he explains before elaborating on *MOONLIT FOOLS'* lyrical themes. "'It's about failed attempts and past mistakes—applying angst and frustration to the smoothness of the genre. These are a bunch of experiences that didn't go well—I wasn't smooth, I didn't get away with anything, and I lost what I wanted to keep. You could say the album is a dark comedy where nothing goes right."

MOONLIT FOOLS as a whole finds Dew zeroing in on embracing what's in front of him. "We romanticize things," he states while discussing *MOONLIT FOOLS'* mission statement. "We already know why we act the way we act—we just want to feel seen."

Helping craft this atmosphere: regular collaborators like Jack Antonoff (St. Vincent, Lana Del Rey), DJ Dahi (Drake, Vince Staples), and Sounwave (Kendrick Lamar, Taylor Swift). "They were gracious enough to mess around with me," Dew shares. "There was a casualness that I prefer with a lot of my creative friends. It's about those moments when you have something special and you want to value it. Whether we've been in the same room at the same time or sending stuff back and forth, it's always been a great collaborative process that's led to a better project overall."

Furthermore, drummer and former Mars Volta member Deantoni Parks contributed the lovingly loping backbeat to "GONE," a creative mind-meld that perfectly soundtracks Dew's lyrical ruminations on the feeling of letting go and not being present. "I don't want to go—I'm already gone. It became this incoherence about not being present...even when there are those around that need you, but you feel you're not missing out on anything at all."

"NTWFL" is Dew's spellbinding take on the R&B classic "Now That We Found Love" that was previously performed by such greats as The O'Jays, Third World and Heavy D. "I grew up on the Heavy D version, but the OG track was always in my life because of my parents," he explains. "I wanted it to find a new life, and it spoke to me."

MOONLIT FOOLS arrives on the heels of Dew establishing himself as an in-demand songwriter for artists ranging from Rihanna, Mary J. Blige, and Jessie Ware to Wale, Taylor Swift, and Zayn. An album five years in the making, Dew drew from his love of R&B and the moody, electronic side of NIN and Radiohead, as well as cinematic inspirations that included the peculiarity of Paul Thomas Anderson and enigmatic notions of Christopher Nolan.

