

Clem Leek - America (2017)

Written by bluesever

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1 *Change* 1:16 2 *Challenger* 2:55 3 *Dorsay* 2:00 4 *Skyscraping* 2:23 5 *Streets* 1:54
6 *Snow Tale #5* 1:23 7 *New Day* 3:02 8 *The Breeze* 3:35 9 *What Happens Next?* 2:18
10 *City Birds* 2:17 11 *Progress* 3:22 12 *Endeavour* 2:40 Producer, Written-By – Clem Leek
Performer [Additional] – Joel Thompson Mastered by - Matthew Styles Harris

Clem Leek returns with his third studio album *America* on YEN. After his stunning debut album *Holly Lane*, Leek has been likened to Nils Frahm and Peter Broderick. Trained as a pianist from a young age, Clem Leek grew up around music, picking up every instrument he could lay his hands on. He often uses the beauty of natural surroundings from his childhood and personal experiences as inspiration for his works. He draws from a range of genres to create a unique & contemporary style and is now a well recognised name in the 'Modern Classical' genre.

America is a reflection of Clem's personal transition from Europe to the U.S. Each track refers to new experiences, both information and sensory. Moving from the countryside to the city brought about a plethora of new friends, landscapes and routines and this is reflected in the new styles, instruments and techniques that have bled into the album. The ambient, electronica and raw instrumental styles are a reflection of the ever-changing city atmosphere, always changing, always growing. Keen observers and listeners may see more wider American references to NASA space shuttles, and hear the hidden everyday sounds of life here. ---clemleek.bandcamp.com

There always been something quite personal in the music of Clem Leek. Trained as a pianist from a young age and now a developed into a composer, sound artist, sound designer, and

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multi-instrumentalist, he has drawn heavily on his surroundings and life experiences from the very start; consider the misty, overcast reflections of growing up in England on Holly Lane (2010) and the intimate piano & guitar based sketches of Lifenotes (2011) and Rest (2013). The past year has apparently been on one of significant change for Leek and this is reflected in his latest opus and third studio album entitled America.

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One thing that has not changed a great deal, however, is Leek’s penchant for concise forms. He is a masterful musical sketch artist who captivates here with a dozen colorful vignettes of an expansive, filmic quality that belies their diminutive length. Leek can express more in two minutes than many artists can in ten as he uses lyrical piano lines and layers of strings, voice, & electronics to convey wide-eyed wonder and the willing embrace of both personal change & new opportunities so well symbolized by Chris Keenan’s striking rural highway scene gracing the album’s cover. This is one musical road trip you won’t want to miss.

---stationarytravels.wordpress.com

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