



Kittin & The Hacker

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For 25 years, the mythical duo Kittin & The Hacker AKA Caroline Hervé and Michel Amato have traversed the landscape of electro as DJs, musicians, and producers. The triple-threat artists pioneered the electroclash genre as they worked on both collaborative and solo projects. This year, reigniting their collaboration and embarking on a tour featuring a live set featuring The Hacker on the turntables and Kittin on vocals.

Their partnership blossomed in the entrancing context of '90s raves, quickly discovering their complementary artistic natures. After collaborating while on the road, their cooperation went from strength to strength while they forayed into new, uncompromising grounds. Their first release, titled *First Album* hit the scene in 2001 on DJ Hell's label, Gigolo Records. A sonic explosion from which came the unsinkable "Frank Sinatra," and "1982," - still popular two decades post-release. In 2009, they sweetened their sound and released *Two*, which infused their electronica with pop influences while making clear their boundless freedom of expression.

For 13 years, the duo has worked on solo projects, the hiatus explained by themselves as being due to the nature of their relationship, joking that "the way we work, we only make music together when we miss each other musically." If that is the case, then absence has truly made their musical hearts fonder as, after a visit by Kittin in 2018, The Hacker shared some new sounds. This would be the beginning of their *Third Album*.

The pair are mutually delighted to dip in and out of collaboration, returning to their recent project with as much ease as in the early days. In only a few hours, some simple loops became near-accomplished pieces. With a shared drive, they decided to rediscover the radicalism of their beginnings, far from the codes and trends at the time. Their new opus would be released some months later, but without having lost an ounce of power along the way. *Third* packs a punch, with its eight tracks working both in unison and individually, in and of their own brilliance. Subtly mixing personal references and universal themes, *Third* succeeds in being relatable without indulging in clichés.

Authentic and fundamentally unifying, *Third Album* leaves the audience wanting more. These wishes will be granted as the duo return in 2022 with unwavering energy.

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