

Mp3 Fleau - Three



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Pronounced "flow," this trio delivers a blend of exotic, down-tempo hip hop beats; keyboards, layered with ethereal sound effects; and breathy, jazz-inflected vocals. 10 MP3 Songs ELECTRONIC: Trip Hop, HIP-HOP/RAP: Hip Hop Details: Comprised of former Reality Check member Rod Shuler (DJ, programming, vocals); Marisol LaBoy (lead vocals, acoustic guitar); and, recently added, former lead vocalist of The Channelsurfers, Aaron Scantlen (keyboards, vocals); they blaze new territory with a new album that brilliantly brings their version of trip hop to the music loving masses. Originally launching in 1999, fleau immediately aroused attention, topping the charts on beatmart.com, as well as making a splash on mp3and 1231records.com. This translated into early success for the young band. Playing at Nashville nightspots such as Wolfy's, 3rd and Lindsley, and 12th Porter bolstered the buzz as well. Band leader Rod Shuler's path led through Liberty University in Virginia, where as an undergrad, he helped form the band Reality Check. Slugging it out in the touring trenches for several years, they won a southeastregional talent competition that led into a contract with, Nashville-based, StarSong Records. After selling an impressive 75,000 copies of its debut, the band broke up before a follow up could be recorded. Rod then pursued DJ work, landing jobs with notable hip hop artist Toby Mac, and touring with bands Silage and Parkway. He also contributed his decks to the award-winning, instrumental record Freedom, by Michael W. Smith. But Rod was gradually becoming more interested in electronica. "I was hearing the sounds coming out of Europe and the U.K., like Hooverphonic, Portishead, Tricky, and Massive Attack. I started searching for ways to integrate those influences with a more pop-based form, that would allow me to express myself lyrically as well." It was then that Rod decided to embark on a new project altogether...fleau. Marisol LaBoy, having transplanted herself from Brooklyn to Nashville in February 2000, came in search of a music career like many aspiring artists before her. She had been the

lead vocalist and rhythm guitarist of her own folk-rock band, Bruised Reed, but the band dissipated shortly after the move to Nashville. It was while working as a back-up singer and looking for another musical outlet that she was introduced to Rod. "When Rod and I met, we found a common interest in the jazz stylings of artists such as Ella Fitzgerald and Sara Vaughn; and we also discovered we had a mutual love for the songwriting of Stevie Wonder," explains Marisol. "We write songs to reach people, to evoke an emotion, and to share an experience. It is through our songs where we desire to touch the hearts of our audience, and to promote the commonality of love." Aaron Scantlen hails from Warsaw, IN and started playing the keys at age 6. A singer as well, Aaron took the lead in the funky, rock-driven Christian band, The Channelsurfers. The Channelsurfers were signed with Organic Records, and produced two albums between the years of 1997 and 1998. Aaron's friendship with Rod developed when Reality Check and The Channelsurfers toured together. It was during this time that the two friends shared their love for electronica-based music, and often shared ideas with one another. When Aaron moved to Nashville in the summer of 2000 after The Channelsurfers had dissolved, his relationship with Rod came full circle. The two continued sharing their musical interests and worked together on separate projects. Before becoming a member of fleau, Aaron was a significant contributor to the group by co-writing and performing on the LP; he also designed various graphics for the band. Now as co-member, Aaron plays an instrumental role as keyboardist, background vocalist, and graphic designer. fleau desires to continue breaking new ground. In 2004, the song Faithful (found on the EP fleau) was featured in a Nashville-based independent film called Blind. This film was showcased at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival, allowing the music of fleau to be heard by thousands. Additionally, fleau has surpassed 100,000 hits on mp3.com, as well as score a recent number one electronica song in Tennessee, with the single Precious Love. fleau continues to create and inspire as they partner with the non-profit organization, Shekinah Glory Ministries. fleau's goal? To reach new audiences with their eclectic sound, and to bring a message of love and hope to everyone.

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