



Agbeko announce new album

# AGBEKO

'There Must Be Another Way'

Manchester's 12-piece create a transfixing mix of Afrobeat, Protest Song and UK Jazz on their upcoming self-released sophomore album. It releases on 12" LP and digital download on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023, alongside tour dates in the winter and spring.

Agbeko embody a heady concoction of Afrobeat, psych-rock, Ethio-jazz and Protest Song. Channelled through an onslaught of horns, irresistible grooves and powerful lyrics, Agbeko's songs strive to call out corruption and embolden the collective pull towards societal change and healing in present times. They are the soundtrack for a congregation revelling upon a world teetering on the edge of collapse. Drawing as equally from Fela Kuti and Mulatu Astatke as they do from Led Zeppelin and Woody Guthrie, 'Agbeko are their own force of nature, with a message, an understanding and a consistent ability to erupt a dance floor.' (Groovement)

Title track *There Must Be Another Way* sees them wearing the tradition of protest song at the heart of their music on their sleeve, as does the unapologetic *Amber Tongues* in its polemic about one of the darkest episodes in the UK's recent history. *Terra Firma* is a heavy instrumental reflection on the growing popularity of the far right across western Europe. Given the pandemic isolation surrounding the compositions, it's perhaps inevitable that the album *There Must Be Another Way* also sees Agbeko's chief songwriter, Jamie Stockbridge, show moments of introspection; *Somebody Somebody* is a meditation on the loss of a dear friend and the existentialism that can come with it, and *All That I'd Turn Back For* sets the comfort, vulnerability and co-dependence of a relationship against the happy-melancholy found in the music of highlife masters Pat Thomas and Ebo Taylor. *Oscar's Tune* is an homage to Oscar Sulley, and shows the band's prowess as instrumentalists forged in the UK's burgeoning jazz and creative music scene.

Proud DIY artists, the group are self-releasing *There Must Be Another Way* on limited edition 12" vinyl, available to pre-order on Bandcamp to release on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is accompanied by a short winter 2023 UK tour, with a second leg for April 2024 to be announced in the new year.

FOR RELEASE FROM 10th October 2023

The first leg of Agbeko's tour dates is as follows:

21<sup>st</sup> October: The Grand, Clitheroe  
18<sup>th</sup> November: The Trades Club, Hebden Bridge  
19<sup>th</sup> November: The Quarry, Liverpool  
29<sup>th</sup> November: Peggy's Skylight, Nottingham  
30<sup>th</sup> November: Jam Jar, Bristol  
1<sup>st</sup> December: Peckham Levels, London  
15<sup>th</sup> December: YES, Manchester

Useful Links:

Live video for track title track 'There Must Be Another Way': <https://youtu.be/ASmMqfVcmLw>

Bandcamp link to pre-order: <https://agbeko.bandcamp.com/album/there-must-be-another-way>

Website: [www.agbeko.co.uk](http://www.agbeko.co.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/weareagbeko](https://www.facebook.com/weareagbeko)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/weareagbeko](https://www.instagram.com/weareagbeko)

Youtube Channel: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCm0SPV\\_irQeNPJRj6bBMEkQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCm0SPV_irQeNPJRj6bBMEkQ)

**END OF PRESS RELEASE**

For more information, a private streaming link to the full album for review or comments, email Jamie on [hello@agbeko.co.uk](mailto:hello@agbeko.co.uk) or call 07913 978615