

BROKEN 8 RECORDS



Sienná – Q.o.S

A native from Kyoto, Japan who now finds herself immersed in the culture and sounds of Oslo, Norway, Sienná has lived her life in the pursuit of her musical dreams. A blossoming artist who is quickly, and rightfully, being recognised for her songwriting, production, and DJ'ing talents, Sienná has just recently released 'Q.o.S' into the world, pushing her 'no rules' approach and deft electronic-tinged style to the very limits of the modern world.

In a dreamy, East meets West crossover, 'Q.o.S' opens with the ambient expanse of 'Yes', an affirming track that showcases Sienná's sense of atmospheric avant-garde. It's a lucid tangle that opens the floor to 'World Citizens', a more dynamic piece that sees contemporary Japanese styles clash with Western EDM in the most pleasing way possible. It's 64-bit nostalgia washed with intelligent grooves and flowing melodies, bringing together extremes and stitching them into pieces of coherent sound.

'Iwashimizu' is a serene journey through Sienná's calmer moments, while tracks such as 'Sixth Sense' and 'Eastern Plays' oppose the gentle purity by breaking into free rhythms and heavy jungle beats, forcing their way between the quieter moments and wailing triumphantly.

At first glance, 'Q.o.S' can be blinding in its uniqueness. It's an unfolding vision the revels in sonic contrasts and the creation of new sounds, brandishing the foremost elements of electronica, house, jazz, and Japanese music to carve new steps in a weird, but wonderful music journey. The quality of 'Q.o.S' is hard to beat, and the sound, while confronting at first, quickly becomes inviting with repeat listens. The only nagging issue is its restless construction, jumping wildly from the serene to brash in almost an instant.

A double-edged sword, the energy and erratic sounds of 'Q.o.S' works to both distance and excite in equal measure, and while it's not going to be easily digested by some more mainstream audiences, it's unique vision and creative nature simply has to be celebrated.

Score: 7/10

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By Thomas Bedward

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