



AKIRA SAKATA & CHIKAMORACHI *FRIENDLY PANTS*

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 FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES



****NO EXPORT TO JAPAN**

Friendly Pants is the first American release by legendary Japanese saxophonist **Akira Sakata** in more than 20 years. It pairs the 65-year-old traveler alongside **Chikamorachi**, the bombast rhythm section of drummer **Chris Corsano** (**Paul Flaherty Duo**, **Bjork**, **Jandek**) and acoustic bassist **Darin Gray** (**On Fillmore**, **Grand Ulena**, **Brise Glace**).

Since the late 1960s, Sakata has been a constant figure in jazz and creative music scenes as an ever evolving and adventurous, multi-instrumentalist, and member of classic groups such as **Yamashita Yosuke Trio** and **Wha-ha-ha** plus many of his own, like the **Sakata Akira mii**. He has recorded with **Chris Cosey**, **Peter Brötzmann** in **Last Exit**, **DJ Krush**, **Yoshimio**, and others.

Since 2005 Sakata has been aligned with Corsano and Gray — a duo equally informed by underground American rock, noise & free jazz — and already issued two other smoked and blown out albums with them in Japan. On each of those they were joined by **Jim O'Rourke**, who remains in the producer's chair for this session.

Sakata delivers ferocious / highly lyrical approaches to the post-bop field and with Chikamorachi's recalls late-period **John Coltrane** or **Pharoah Sanders** during the early 1970s at times. While the three smear and tear at the edges, Sakata's massive tone and melodic sense reins in the chaos to create beauty and awe.

Originally issued on O'Rourke's Japanese imprint Shakaijin Records, *Friendly Pants* is now reissued for the rest of the world to dig.

RELATED DISTRIBUTED BACK CATALOG TITLES:

- FV06 Darin Gray & Loren Connors – This Past Spring CD
- FV17 Darin Gray - St. Louis Shuffle CD
- FV35 Cold Bleak Heat - Its Magnificient, but It Isn't War CD
- FV39 Paul Flaherty & Chris Corsano – The Hated Music CD

TRACK LISTING

1. Friendly Pants
2. Un
3. In Case, Le t's Go to Galaxy
4. That Day of Rain
5. With Saigo Path
6. Yo! Yo! Dime

SELLING POINTS

- The first release from **Akira Sakata** outside of Japan in more than 20 years!
- Fans of American jazz classics like **Contrane**, **Ayler** and **Sanders** will dig Sakata as much as those heads used to the private pressings avant skronk of **Ware**, **Carter** and **Flaherty**.
- Produced by **Jim O'Rourke**, who has already recorded multiple albums with Sakata, this CD is the perfect introduction for jazz and out rock fans to hear one of Japan's most vibrant jazz voices.
- **Chikamorachi** is **Chris Corsano** and **Darin Gray** -- two lynchpins of the American underground. Both appeared as **Osorezan** (with O'Rourke) for the Drag City debut *Mimidokodesuka*.



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