

# Paul Maroon & Jenny Lin Announce New LP, Share "El Raval" Single via *Brooklyn Vegan*

# 13 Short Piano Pieces LP Out November 11





Photo Credits (Left to Right) Photo Courtesy of Paul Maroon Photo by Chen Hsiao-Chen

PRE-ORDER/PRE-SAVE & SHARE: Paul Maroon & Jenny Lin - 13 Short Piano Pieces
Pre-Save

LISTEN & SHARE: Paul Maroon & Jenny Lin - "El Raval" <u>Stream</u>

"'El Raval' spirals and climbs gorgeously across a mere 93 seconds."
- <u>Brooklyn Vegan</u>

Today, storied composer **Paul Maroon** — best known as a member of **The Walkmen** — and concert pianist **Jenny Lin** — a frequent **Phillip Glass** collaborator — have teamed up on a brand new collaborative record, **13 Short Piano Pieces** (due November 11). To celebrate the announcement, the pair have shared the record's first single, "**El Raval**," named after the Barcelona neighborhood.

Speaking on the track, Paul wrote:

"El Raval' is maybe the filthiest place I've ever lived. And I've lived in Philadelphia. It's been a rough part of Barcelona for 800 years, the original leper colony right outside the medieval city walls. This piece is my reflection of it. It's also a ton of fun and a place I miss."

13 Short Piano Pieces was recorded at the historic Sear Sound in New York by **Michael Harris** (Lana Del Rey, Arctic Monkeys, Vampire Weekend) using old techniques, old microphones, and tape machines. Whereas most contemporary piano is recorded to sound the same for the whole collection, Michael brought a different recording approach to each piece. It was mastered by **Christopher Colbert** at National Freedom.



Paul Maroon & Jenny Lin - "El Raval" [OFFICIAL AUDIO]

#### PAUL MAROON LINKS

Website | Twitter | Instagram

# JENNY LIN LINK Website

#### 13 Short Piano Pieces Bio:

13 Short Piano Pieces is a collaboration between two remarkable musicians, composer Paul Maroon and pianist Jenny Lin.

Jenny Lin is an internationally-celebrated concert pianist based in New York City. She has performed at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. Jenny has over 40 recordings on her discography. She has worked closely with **Phillip Glass** and also serves on the faculty of the Mannes College at the New School for Music.

Paul Maroon is an American composer based in Seville, Spain. He is best known as a member of the much-loved rock group **The Walkmen** and for scoring the **Oscar-winning documentary** *Heaven is a Traffic Jam* on the 405.

Both artists have been featured in publications such as the New York Times, Washington Post, the New Yorker, NPR's Tiny Desk and many more. They attended high school together, but only met again in the last couple of years.

13 Short Piano Pieces has an ominous feeling. It is pessimistic about the world in which it was created and pessimistic about the future. The runs that begin the first piece, "Mile End," are uneven and unbalanced. "El Raval," named for a dirty Barcelona neighborhood, scatters notes in every direction. "Audubon Park" should be the most beautiful part of New Orleans, but it keeps

returning to something off. These pieces reflect these places, and this moment, in a way lyrical music could not.

13 Short Piano Pieces is sometimes a bit absurd, too. "**Triana**" tells the story of a fight between a lizard and a cockroach outside Paul's storage space office. "**Alfama**" should be "Principe Real," where the composer actually lived in Lisbon, but Panda Bear already wrote a song about it.

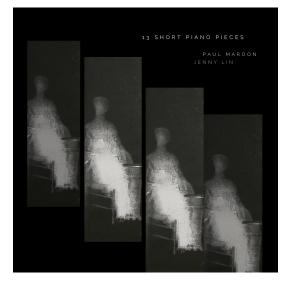
13 Short Piano Pieces is also beautiful. "Rose Park" muses on the park by Paul's house growing up. "Delancey Place," like the Center City Philadelphia street, is warm and austere. All the pieces here are named for places where Paul has lived in Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, New Orleans, Montreal, Lisbon, Barcelona, and Seville. Musical influences on these pieces are the piano etudes of Igor Stravinsky and Arnold Schoenberg's string quartets, as well as the playing of Ernesto Lecuona and Emahoy Tsequé-Maryam Guèbrou. The record ends with "Irish Channel," which was written to sound like an improvised lullaby, something Jenny would play—following her ear—at the end of the day for her daughter. It moves from a dissonant beginning to an innocent descending idea. The Irish Channel in New Orleans is where Paul lived when his girls were small.

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Jenny was patient with Paul as learned how to write scores this complicated—a brand new process for him. Invaluable support in score preparation was given by **Jerry Umlauf** and **Michael Delgado**, both talented composers based in central Florida.

Paul would like to dedicate this record to his mother, Suzy, who fought the good fight nightly when he was a kid to keep him learning the piano. It's been a lifelong dream of his to write a collection like this and dedicate it to her.

New classical music can often be a challenge for the listener because of the density of the material. Paul has shortened these pieces, so they develop, unravel, and (usually) re-assemble quickly. Each piece, he hopes, is a little gem, encouraging multiple listens and greater enjoyment.



### 13 Short Piano Pieces - TRACKLISTING:

- 01. Mile End
- 02. El Raval
- 03. Charles Village
- 04. Rose Park
- 05. Riverside Drive
- 06. Alfama
- 07. Triana
- 08. The Plateau
- 09. Delancey Park
- 10. Audubon Park
- 11. Morningside Heights
- 12. West Philadelphia
- 13. The Irish Channel

#### 13 Short Piano Pieces Credits:

Composed by Paul Maroon (Maroon Music ASCAP) Performed by Jenny Lin

# Recorded and mixed by Michael Harris at Sear Sound Mastered by Christopher Colbert at National Freedom





Childhood Photos Courtesy of Paul Maroon & Jenny Lin

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