

# PLANET BLUU

Planet Bluu lies just beyond the realm of our imagination. It's a dream so fragile that if you whisper its presence, this magnanimous world might vanish into thin air. Planet Bluu is a place devoid of war, famine, systemic racism, gender discrimination, and religious intolerance. This ebullient planet lies just beyond the boundaries of our galaxy in a perpetual state of munificence. On Planet Bluu elisions of poverty and pollution are prevalent. The fecundity of Planet Bluu contains no boundaries of countries or passports. There are no prisons, police, or weapons. Privilege is valued and honored for all. Everyone lives in total harmony with their neighbors and the environment. Its waters are pristine and not the least bit alluvial without obfuscations. The aquatic life is plentiful and its effluents transverse the entire landscape. The acumen of its inhabitants collectively contributes to the wellness of society and services are exchanged instead of currency. There is an overabundance of obeisant regard towards the elders whose wisdom is ubiquitous and multifarious. The variegated hues of its populace are celebrated and treasured. Endemic to Planet Bluu is a lack of enmity and a prodigious reverence for the arts. In fact, musicians are distinguished as "guerisseurs" or healers! At the core of Planet Bluu is a profound existence of embracing Love and Forgiveness, which are fundamental ingredients for this utopian world. Planet Bluu is a perspicuous vision in which music manifests an elucidation of a world we aspire to encapsulate in our hearts and soul!

T.K. Blue May 2022

## Tracklisting

- 1) The Hue Of Bluu (4:55)
- 2) Valley of the Bluu Rose (4:09)
- 3) Planet Bluu (5:00)
- 4) Chrystal Lake Bluu (4:27)
- 5) Sky Bluu Part 1 (2:17)
- 6) Sky Blue Part 2 (5:01)
- 7) When It's Time To Say Goodbye (Hale Smith) (5:32)
- 8) Chessman's Delight (Randy Weston) (5:37)
- 9) Turquoise Bluu (5:30)
- 10) Royal Bluu (1:18)
- 11) The Bluu Sea of Our Tomorrows (6:10)

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## Album Details

All compositions by T.K. Blue except tracks 7 and 8

T.K. Blue | alto and soprano sax, alto flute, kalimba; Wallace Roney, Jr | trumpet; Davis Whitfield | piano; Dishan Harper | bass; Orion Turre | drums; Steve Turre | trombone and shells (3, 4, 8, 9); Dave Kikoski | piano (7)

Recorded Sunday May 15, 2022 at Kaleidoscope Sound in Union City N.J.

Mastered Wednesday Oct 19, 2022 at G and J Audio in Union City N.J.

Produced by T.K. Blue | Associate Producer Bob Karey | Executive Producer Kim Bressant-Kibwe

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Chessman's Delight composed by Dr. Randy Weston arranged by T.K. Blue  
Totem/Mayflower Music Inc ASCAP

When It's Time To Say Goodbye composed by Hale Smith HalSCO Music /BMI

## Track Details

### 1) The Hue Of Bluu

I've always loved and cherished the different shades, colorations, and variations on blue. It exemplifies royalty, spirituality, tranquility, and a sublime energy, which remains on simmer, but can fire up on a moment's notice. Wally and Davis create masterful solos followed by myself on alto saxophone.

### 2) Valley Of The Bluu Rose

The rose exists in different shades and colors; however the blue has the strongest scent. Its fragrance is penetrating and quite captivating. This song serves as an improvisational vehicle for myself on soprano saxophone and Wally on trumpet.

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## 3) Planet Bluu

This composition was originally composed on the kalimba, which provided me the melodic material for the "A" sections. I later used the piano to find the right harmonic sequence for the melody and to create a bridge connecting these "A" sections.

## 4) Chrystal Lake Bluu

Picture a fresh-water lake on top of a plateau whose waters are pristine boasting over one hundred feet of visibility. The sanza is very important in establishing the mood as well as shell master Steve Turre. I added the alto flute in conversation with the shells to create an ebullient dialogue.

## 5) Sky Bluu Part 1

The opening statement is played on the lukembi, followed by a repetition of this melodic line on alto saxophone. Using the piano I composed a harmonic movement to accompany the melody and improvisation.

## 6) Sky Bluu Part 2

The repetitive line played by the lukembi is echoed with the trumpet and alto saxophone along with a dynamic rhythmic accompaniment. Sky's the limit within the realm of creativity.

## 7) When It's Time To Say Goodbye (Hale Smith)

Maestro Hale was my teacher upon my return to the USA after living in Paris close to nine years. I read about Mr. Smith's work as a composer and arranger while attending undergraduate school at NYU. After moving to Paris, France I recorded my first project as a leader entitled Egyptian Oasis, which included one of Hale's compositions: I Love Music. To meet Hale a few years later was quite serendipitous, as his compositions are extremely compelling. His wife Juanita is like a godmother and I visit her in Long Island quite frequently. "When it's Time To Say Goodbye" is a beautiful ballad and one of Juanita's favorite songs composed by her husband. It was recorded in her honor and featured during Juanita's retirement party at the

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United Nations. I am equally blessed to have an extraordinary pianist join me on this version named Dave Kikoski.

## 8) Chessman's Delight (Randy Weston)

NEA Jazz Master Dr. Randy Weston had a profound influence on my career, and I am forever grateful for his unwavering support and encouragement. Like myself, Dr. Weston's favorite color was blue, and his most famous and lucrative recording was Blue Moses. Baba recorded another project entitled "Blue" I love the game of chess and decided to include this composition on Planet Bluu. Everyone gets a taste on this track including master trombonist and special guest Steve Turre.

## 9) Turquoise Bluu

Since my childhood I've always had a profound affinity for turquoise. Its shading and coloration of blue has hints of elegance, royalty, spirituality, and reverence. Composed in 7/4 yields hints of perpetual motion. The band creates a cyclic motion and energy that supports creative and spontaneous composition.

## 10) Royal Bluu

This composition is in duo with myself on kalimba and Orion Turre on drums. Orion plays exceptionally comfortable across 6/8 rhythms.

## 11) The Bluu Sea Of Our Tomorrows

This composition serves as a vehicle for spontaneous composition with the piano and alto saxophone. I created three different horn lines, which are layered. This creates some tension, which reflects adversity we all experience as we navigate through life. A blue unpolluted sea of immaculate waters represents the joy and optimism that we will eventually arrive at our destination unspoiled and unharmed. Our future is bright and filled with buoyancy.

# PLANET BLUE

## Acknowledgements

I am extremely grateful and appreciative for all of the blessings bestowed upon myself. I am eternally indebted to God for the inspiration to record this project and I sincerely thank all of the artists who gave their time and energy to help me bring this music to fruition: Dishan, Davis, Wally, Orion, Steve, and Dave. I also want to thank my dear "big brother" Bob Karey for his love, support, and belief in my musical outpouring. Special thanks to the executive producer Kim and all the folks behind the scene: Kyle Cassel, R. Andrew Lepley, Gene Paul, Joel Kerr, Adam Z, and Lafiya Watson of Bad Chick Studios, The Vandoren/Dansr family, The Jazz Foundation of America Family, Judith Humenick, Mike Cherigo, Willard and Suzan Jenkins, Brothers Smokehouse, Jazzmobile and Robin Bell-Stevens, The Rhynie Clan especially two young saxophonists Mason and Chany, Jahris, The Bressant Clan, TreSean Cooks, Monique-Antoine-KayKay-Livy Johnson, Hidemasa Sato and Yanagisawa Saxophones, Catherine Schwartz, and lastly a tremendous shout out to publicist Lydia Liebman.

T.K. Blue endorses Vandoren reeds, ligatures, and mouthpieces; Yanagisawa Saxophones; BAM musical instrument cases.