

**fulcrumpoint**  
NEW MUSIC PROJECT 

Stephen Burns, Artistic Director

present:

AuxIn & Discoveries: Hear & Be Heard

**Homage to the Afro-American Music  
Opportunities Association: New Works**

Curated by Angel Bat Dawid



May 26, 2021 7:00 PM

Streamed Live on YouTube from  
Connect Gallery, Hyde Park, Chicago  
Rob McKay, Co-owner

## **Program**

**Mineziple**

**Isaiah Collier**

**Tariq**

**Heaven's Lament**

Children of the Sky:

Isaiah Collier, sax; Oliva Harris, cello; Angel Bat Dawid, bass clarinet

**A Dirge & A Dream**

**Julian Terrell Otis**

**I. Dirge**

Isaiah Collier, sax; Oliva Harris, cello; Angel Bat Dawid, piano

**II. Dream**

Julian Terrell Otis, voice and electronics

**Live in Peace**

**Anaïet**

**Tied Up**

**Ocean Wind, Be My Friend**

**Blueberry Skies**

Anaïet, voice and guitar

Brooklyn Skye Scott, guitar

## Notes:

The Afro-American Music Opportunity Association (AAMOA) was founded in 1969 by C Edward Thomas to support Black music and musicians. In collaboration with Columbia records AAMOA released these amazing albums highlighting black composers. So in the same vein I'd like to do a tribute show to the series by highlighting young black composers here in Chicago to present new work.

### *Angel Bat Dawid*

∞

**Children Of The Sky** is a trio founded by composer, arranger and multi-instrumentalist Isaiah Collier. The concept of this project was to bring the three respective air signs, Libra, Gemini, Aquarius into one ensemble. Collier had decided to gather the dynamic and fierce Angel Bat Dawid on Clarinet. Along with the astute and poised Oliva Harris on the cello. The conversation between the tenor saxophone, cello, and bass Clarinet is sweet and full. Having the opposite textures of each respective instrument complementing each other. The result is a bewildering experience of pure joy, Intellect and high-level musicianship. **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/icandchosen> **Instagram:** @colliersworld

### *Isaiah Collier*

∞

**A Dirge & A Dream** are my attempt to be honest with the realities of living. Mourning is needed and is realized in a sound that wears sorrow as nostalgia. Attempts to find its own pulse, chases its own shadow and ends where it begins. Dream meets this reality with exploration of long tones, processed, sonic representations of light and color. Meditations on alternate collective landscapes. Julian Otis 2021

[LAYS THE FOUNDATION]  
WE  
US

OUR  
POWER

***Julian Terrell Otis***

∞

These three pieces, Blueberry Skies, Tied Up, and Ocean Wind, are from a soon to be project called Live in Peace, by Anaïet. Heavily influenced by Lauryn Hill's MTV Unplugged 2.0, the project focuses heavily on lyricism with hints of imagery, extended metaphor and etc., accompanied by the rawness of acoustic guitar and voice. Some themes throughout the project, as seen here, are tales of lost love, death, and the existential sadness that comes with being human and how some of us choose to cope with it. These songs reflect many of my feelings as well as those that I've seen portrayed by friends, loved ones and the people around me. As an artist I believe it is essential to create music inspired by the life around you, and to record those moments in a way that will find its way into the hearts of listeners all over the world, because life is a human experience.

I also enjoy the personal sentiment this project has to me, as there's some things that appear that you'll only "know if you know". Being from Chicago, for example, people here refer to loose cigarettes as "squares", hence the lyric "Am I addicted to you just as much as these squares?"

It's the small things that have the biggest impact.

I genuinely hope you enjoy this experience.

Thank you for listening.

***Anaïet***

**Tied Up**

I've been smoking, drinking,  
Feeling how I'm feeling I won't last the weekend  
Could you give my heart a place to stay, where she's safe?  
I've been thinking to myself that I've grown tired  
Of these earthly things but, find it hard to come up out this skin  
Without ceasing my breathing

So I'm always searching for that fix,  
Know that happiness is fleeting,  
Always searching for that feeling  
That will always stay

Tied up To you by a thread  
Do I need you, or am I losing my head?  
I've been thinking too much I should rest

Tied up To you by a thread,  
Do I need you or am I losing my head  
Am I addicted to you just as much as these squares?

Thinking you can cure my love...

### **Ocean Wind, Be My Friend:**

Guided by a fading light  
Holding on to God  
Hoping to be lifted from the mud  
Hoping never saves no one  
Get up from your grave  
Walk amongst the ones you loved before  
Say "I love you" once more  
Hold me closely in your arms and  
Breathe

Pack light  
Heaven's neither near nor far  
In fact it's right where you are  
And nothing could ever take me from your heart  
I'm here, do you hear?  
All the love I've made you feel  
Is yours to keep  
A gift from me  
To you

### **Blueberry Skies:**

Blueberry skies  
Circle over head,  
And remind me of the girl I once was  
A troubled heart

Nostalgia left a mark on my soul  
They say I've been here before

Trouble on my mind, trouble on my mind  
Trouble on my mind  
I'm Running out of time,  
So bear with me as I  
Live and learn  
As I  
Crash and burn  
As I  
Taste the sweet, sweet kiss of death

Oh when you and I  
When we made love,  
The Sun and sea would stop and watch in awe  
Of a love so thick  
So viscous like honey and sweet like the Ocean wind,  
My one and only friend

You've gone and made a memory of me  
You've gone and made a memory of yourself  
Why did you have to say goodbye  
It brings a tear to my eye

Blueberry skies  
Circle over head  
And remind me of the girl I once was,  
I used to be the twinkle in your eye  
Now I float along this stream like a widowed, worn swan  
Oh please, please hold my hand again  
And kiss me how we kissed  
The last time I saw you around  
Didn't know it would be  
The last time I saw you around  
Hurts knowing I'll never see you around  
And you're gone,  
You're gone now

∞

## Biographies

**Angel Bat Dawid** is a Black American Composer, Improviser, Clarinetist, Pianist, Vocalist & DJ. Her critically acclaimed Album "The Oracle", released by Chicago label International Anthem was created entirely alone- performing, overdubbing & mixing all instruments & voices by herself- recorded using only her cell phone in various locations, from London UK to Cape Town RSA. In the fall of 2019, she composed and premiered "Requiem for Jazz" at the Hyde Park Jazz Festival, and in 2020 composed "Peace: A Suite for Skylanding" commissioned by the Art Institute of Chicago for Yoko Ono's outdoor Skylanding Installation. Angel tours internationally with her septet "Tha Brothahood" and released their album LIVE making NPR's best of 2020 list. She also leads the all-woman trio Sistazz of the Nitty Gritty. As half of the duo group DAOUI Angel & sound artist Oui Ennui produced, mixed and self-released the album "Message from the DAOUI" which was featured at Tusk Festival 2020. Angel is the clarinetist in Damon Locks Black Monument Ensemble and hosts a monthly music show on NTS Radio.

Music is a language, you see, a universal language. -Sun Ra

**Anaïet** is an emerging composer, pianist, and vocalist from the Great Black music traditions of Chicago. Anaïet is influenced by a myriad of musical backgrounds, textures and sounds relying heavily on spontaneous compositions and improvisation. She has performed for Elastic Arts 3rd Annual Benefit Concert, Merkin Concert Hall at the Kauffman Center of the Performing Arts annual Ecstatic Music Festival in New York, the New Music Circle Festival in St Louis and was recently featured on Fulcrum Point New Music Project's 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Concert for Peace .

**Isaiah Collier** is a Chicago/Brooklyn based multi-instrumentalist, composer, arranger, curator, activist, motivational speaker and educator. Collier is most known for his work as a saxophonist, and drummer with his group "*Isaiah Collier & The Chosen Few*". Collier's sound and approach is drawn from the influences of John Coltrane, Roscoe Mitchell, Wayne Shorter, Ari Brown and Gene Ammons. Collier has shared the stage with many distinguished artists—Chance The Rapper, Lewis Nash, Waddada Leo Smith III, Junius Paul, James Carter, Rene Marie, Marquis Hill, Bennie Maupin, Rudy Van Gelder, Angel Bat Dawid, Kahil El'Zabar and many more. Mr. Collier has

performed at The Jazz Showcase, Dizzy's Club Coca Cola, Lithuania Jazz Festival, The White House, Chicago Jazz Festival, New York Winter Jazz Festival, The Hyde Park Jazz Festival, Sons D'hiver Festival (Paris), The Logan Center, The Harris Theatre. Isaiah Collier is also a former fellow of the prestigious Dave Brubeck Institute Stockton, Ca.

Cellist **Olivia J. P. Harris** is an artist dedicated to the performance, instruction, and growth of new music. In addition to being an active soloist, she is a founding member of new music duo, Mazumal. Olivia is enthusiastic about collaborating across genres and mediums and has played alongside dancers, visual artists, actors, and singer-songwriters. Olivia's principal instructors include Astrid Schween, Rhonda Rider, Jeffrey Zeigler, and Mihai Tetel

**Julian Terrell Otis** is a vocalist dedicated to the advancement of Black music in America, spanning genres from creative music and jazz, to contemporary classical. His work explores the limitless possibilities of his instrument's expressive capacity through song, improvisation, and theater. Known for bringing fresh perspective, nuance, and "high drama" to the contemporary music world, the integration of performance "live art" elements is of particular interest to him. Otis's experiences have led him to create the male soloist role in George E. Lewis' chamber opera, *Afterword*, on both domestic and international stages. In exploring the life and work of Julius Eastman, Otis has performed his solo work, *Prelude for the Holy Presence of Joan of Arc*. He revived Peter Maxwell Davies' *Eight Songs for a Mad King* at the inaugural Bang on a Can All Star's Loud Weekend, and is devising works focusing on improvisation, electronics, and movement. *All the Pretty Flowers* is his first recording project of improvised music and poetry. Committed to community empowerment, he led an improvised jam for South Side Chicago communities called Self Care =

Resistance! [JULIANTERRELOTIS.COM](http://JULIANTERRELOTIS.COM) [CLICK HERE FOR NEW WORK SAMPLES](#)

Created in 1998 by conductor, composer and trumpet virtuoso Stephen Burns, the mission of **Fulcrum Point New Music Project** pushes the boundaries of the musical experience globally by: supporting new compositions, creating and performing transformative new music experiences, and educating audiences of all ages and backgrounds to imagine the possibilities of music. Its programs are inspired and influenced by popular culture, including literature, film, dance, folk, rock, jazz, blues,



Latin and world music. Through multi-disciplinary concert performances and educational programs, Fulcrum Point seeks to encourage audiences to make cross-cultural connections between new music, art, technology, politics, spirituality, and literature, gaining greater insight into today's diverse world. Fulcrum Point's *AuxIn: Connected* and *Discoveries: Hear & Be Heard* are co-curated by Angel Bat Dawid and Dalia Chin. For more information on Fulcrum Point and its programs visit [www.fulcrumpoint.org](http://www.fulcrumpoint.org).

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