

Mark Lomax, II, D.M.A.

Activist|Composer|Drummer|Educator

Press Kit 2016



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Biography

“Lomax is the rare drummer who leaves you wanting more, leading his bandmates through a strikingly terse, brilliantly counterintuitive and ultimately joyous series of explorations.”- Lucid Culture

Critically acclaimed recording artist Dr. Mark Lomax, II has spent a lifetime in music. His father a pastor and mother, a composer of gospel music, introduced him to both gospel and jazz at an early age and he continued his study of gospel music with Dr. Raymond Wise, founder of the Center for the Gospel Arts. Besides performing with gospel choirs around the country, Lomax also boasts impressive jazz credentials. He toured with the **Delfeayo Marsalis** Sextet in 2005, and has worked with **Clark Terry**, **Marlon Jordan**, **Azar Lawrence**, **Bennie Maupin**, **Billy Harper**, **Nicholas Payton**, **Ellis Marsalis**, and **Wessel Anderson**, among others. **Jazz Times** says Lomax’s “**forceful drumming would have made Elvin Jones proud.**” Dr. Lomax holds a **Doctor of Music Arts** degree in composition from The Ohio State University. His myriad experiences have allowed him to create a wonderful blend of styles in his music. Whether he’s interpreting the **Negro Spiritual** through jazz, arranging gospel music for a **symphony orchestra**, or performing his original works, his music is relevant, probing, and inspiring. With his latest release **Solo Meditations**, Lomax synthesizes all his previous experiences, in **gospel music, jazz, and classical music** into a powerful personal concept. “It has never been about one or the other when it comes to human experience,” Lomax says. “It is always about the whole, the ability to celebrate our differences while building upon our similarities.”

In addition to performing and composing, Mark has taught college preparatory theory classes in the Columbus Public School system. He is currently a Community Research and Grants Manager at The Columbus Foundation and is also a highly sought after lecturer specializing in the socio-political, and spiritual aspect of African-American art musics, race and using the arts to build community.

Dr. Mark Lomax, II is happy to **endorse RBH Drums** (www.rbhdrumsusa.com) and is represented by **Welgrum Music** (welgrummusic@gmail.com).



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Reviews

“Each of the seven movements of Lomax’s [Blues People] composition flowed seamlessly into the next, resulting in a continuous hour of powerful music.” - **Jazz Columbus**

“...a whole new paradigm for jazz drums that will leave you wrapped in on every beat.”- **Improvjazzation**

“(The State of Black America) is an impressively conceived and executed piece of work from the drummer-leader, one in which the gravitas of the title is adequately matched by the depth of both the composing and improvising of the trio.”- Kevin Le Gendre, **Jazzwise Magazine (UK)**,

“Powerful, assured and filled with tremendous heart.” - Jason Bivins, **Cadence AMJ**

“fascinating, entertaining, and provoking.”- Jordan Richardson, **I Hear Sparks**

“This is a kind of playing that jazz would indeed be wise never to outgrow.”—Jeff Simon, **Buffalo News**

“It’s accomplished, and something Trane would have found worthy.”- **Jazz Scene**

“I can't think of any other album... that is this breathtaking”- **The Borderland (UK)**

“It's a full set of outbop-nubop-nobop, swinging rooted music that shows off their abilities in a good light.” - **GappleGate Music Review**

“Mark Lomax and Trio have created a program that is visceral and soul-searching, music that should be heard "live." - Richard Kamins, **Step Tempest Blog**

“Audacious music such as these tracks written and performed here by Lomax are capable of getting one's band laughed off a bandstand. No laughing here, as the trio has plenty of bite to go with its bark...The task they perform is above reproach, burning through the energy jazz piece, each player standing his ground to deliver an unflinching tour de force.” - Mark Corroto, **All About Jazz**

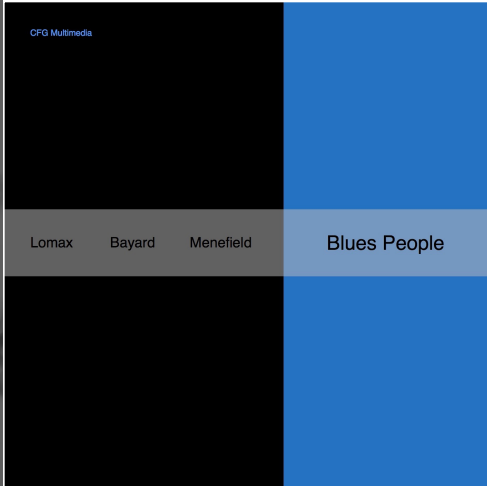
“The drummer’s music is as sharp as his perceptions are, and it swings magnificently.” Raul D’Gama, **All About Jazz**

“[T]he trio takes the legacy of the most creative jazz of the 60s and builds an epic drive, swing and pure improvisation that goes far beyond simple copying or tribute.” - Rodrigo Amado, **Ipsilon (Portugal)**

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LATEST RELEASES



Track List

- 1) Afrika
- 2) Ma'afa
- 3) Prisoners Of War
- 4) Freedom|Reconstruction|KKK
- 5) Civil Rights
- 6) Amerikkka
- 7) Freedom Ain't Free

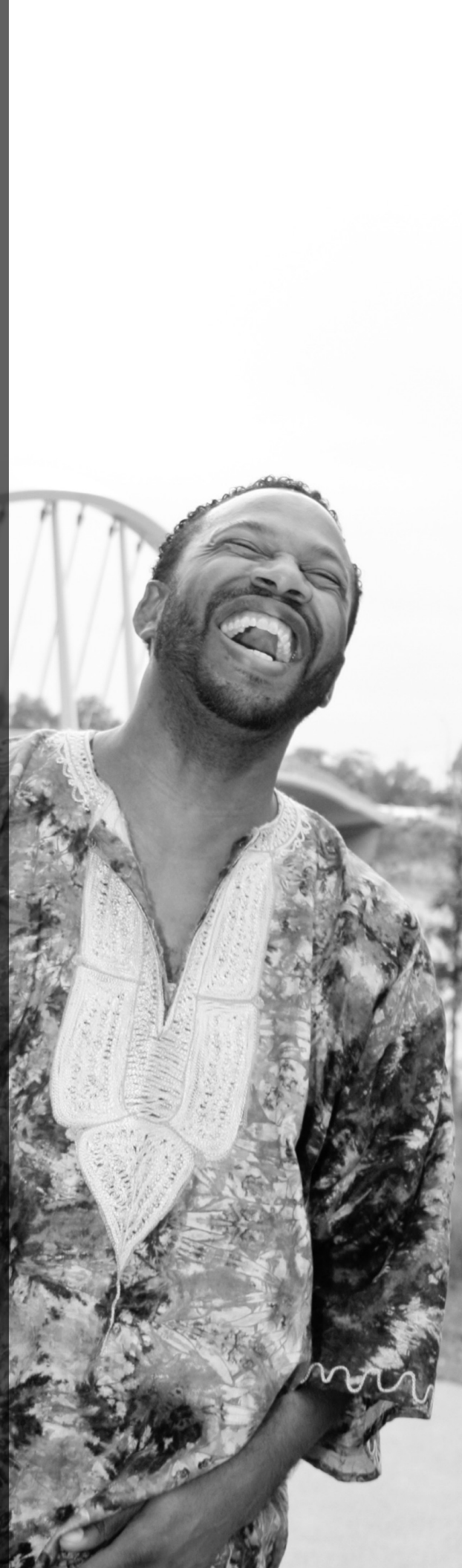
Blues People is a seven movement work inspired by Baraka's classic 1963 book of the same title which connects the development of Black music in America with the evolution of Black America's ever evolving social and political relationship with the country since 1614. The work's use of Negro Spirituals to serve as source material for the spontaneous composition reifies the important role the Spirituals have played in the African Americans quest for Human Rights in America.



Track List

- 1) Afrika
- 2) That's The Idea: Tribute to Kidd Jordan
- 3) Free Will
- 4) Griot Love Song Pt. 2
- 5) Ornette's Theory

The Art Of Sound — giving equal prominence to composed and improvised themes — recalls the work of legendary sax/drum duos by John Coltrane and Rashid Ali, Kidd Jordan and Hamid Drake, and David S. Ware with Rashid Ali. The Ogún Meji Duo is a new name for long time collaborators who have developed a unique aesthetic that is antithetical to many of their contemporaries. The five tracks of this disc showcase the musical expressions of two playing as one. This is strong, intoxicating, and affecting music, accessible to all lovers of jazz past and present.



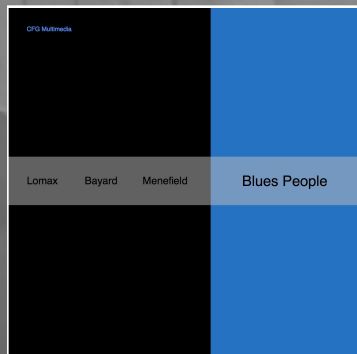
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Concert & Lecture Presentations



Dr. Lomax presents the history of the Dogon, one of Africa's most mysterious ethnic groups highlighting traditional music, spiritual practices, knowledge of science and impact on ancient Egypt. His composition '*Song Of The Dogon*' is a seven movement composition inspired by the ancient cosmology.



This landmark text from a pivotal figure of the Black Arts Movement, LeRoi Jones (Amiri Baraka) provides the inspiration and cultural back drop for this 7 movement suite. Dr. Lomax offers insight into Jones' conclusions by drawing parallels in the contemporary social and political landscape.

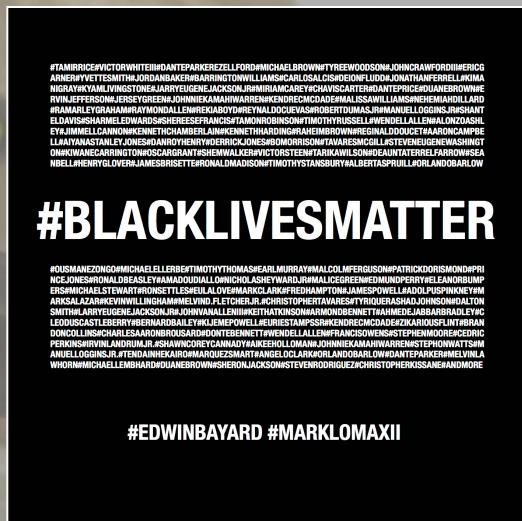


Inspired by the Four B's (Blues, Baraka, Bearden, and Borges), Pulitzer Prize winning American playwright August Wilson, made a career of telling the stories of the beauty, strength, and resilience of Blacks in America. Dr. Lomax shares how he found inspiration in Wilson's work that led to the creation of his five movement '*Blues In August*' for jazz trio and strings.

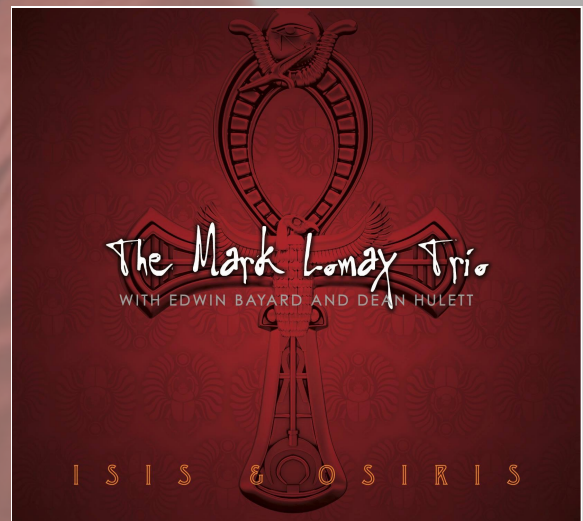
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Selected Discography



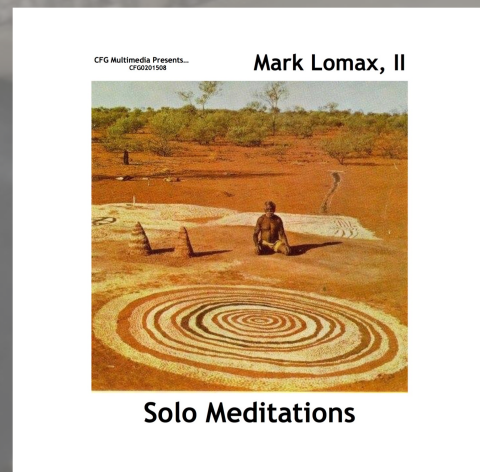
The Ogún Meji Duo
“#BLACKLIVESMATTER”
(CFG00201404)



The Mark Lomax Trio
“Isis & Osiris”
(IR-1007)



The Mark Lomax Trio
“The State of Black America”
(IR-1005)



Mark Lomax
“Solo Meditations”
(CFG00201508)



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Contact Details

Booking

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**"Meaningful art is birthed from the unequivocal
acceptance of who one is."- MLII**

