

new release

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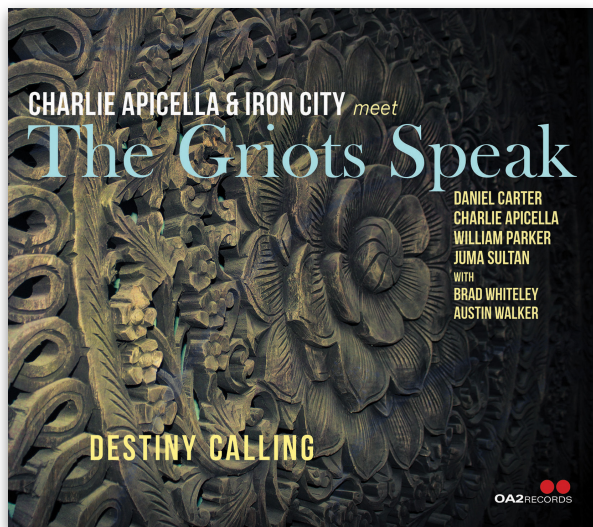
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CHARLIE APICELLA & IRON CITY MEET THE GRIOTS SPEAK “DESTINY CALLING”

“The Griots Speak: Destiny Calling forges new ground, mixing NYC organ grooves with free improvisation. The Griots are legends of the 1960s NYC loft jazz scene and Charlie Apicella brings his lean, driving, hard bop guitar to the band while reinventing himself with his debut as a percussionist.”



1. As The Sun Rises 2:16
 2. Titan vs. Sphinx 3:45
 3. Juma's Song/ Maliki Melasha 3:57
 4. We're All Here In Spirit 4:31
 5. It's Alright To Run 4:27
 6. I Heard In Passing 3:40
 7. If You Know Where To Look 8:15
 8. Where Do You Find These People? 5:04
 9. Sparks 7:06
- TOTAL TIME: 43:02

All compositions by Charlie Apicella and The Griots Speak.

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2023, Produced by Charlie Apicella, executive producer Daniel Carter

Musicians:

Daniel Carter, saxophones, flute, clarinet, trumpet, piano
Charlie Apicella, madal drum, Tibetan singing bowls, guitar
William Parker, bass, doson ngoni, gralla, gembiri, pocket trumpet
Juma Sultan, congas, shakers, percussion
Brad Whiteley, organ
Austin Walker, drums

Charlie Apicella was voted onto the 84th and 86th annual **DownBeat Readers Poll** for Guitar.

Charlie says, “this record isn’t a departure from my previous, it just goes further into new waters. Playing in The Griots Speak gives me a chance to work on composition ideas I learned from **Yusef Lateef** and **Pat Martino**. As a listener, I feel the record is a captivating mix of early Santana and Bitches Brew.”

His compositions are inspired by his first teacher, Yusef Lateef, and the Himalayan folk drum Charlie received from him. On how he came to work with these three living legends, Charlie recalls “Juma has been a beacon since the moment I heard music for the first time. I have a continued love for Jimi Hendrix’s work at Woodstock and beyond, and my ears and heart always were centered on Juma’s sound.”

The roots of **The Griots Speak** reach to the dawn of the improvised music community which sprang to life in 1960s New York City. Trail-blazing percussionist Juma Sultan (**Jimi Hendrix** at Woodstock, and beyond) formed the quartet to help celebrate the life and work of **Studio We** founder **James DuBois**, patriarch of the Loft scene. The band’s music is poetry in motion — simultaneously fluid, extroverted, light, confrontational, meditative, and comforting.

The Griots Speak are exploring both directions at once. Hard bop rhythm section **Iron City** is driving headlong into the future while the elder masters are drawing from a lifetime of experience in communication with the ancestors. The music is pan-ancestral, pan-African, and is sounding a voice for the future.

In today’s world the voices of our ancestors are as clear as ever — if you know where to listen. The Griots Speak strive to amplify that voice.

www.IronCity.nyc/griots

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