

#### Song List:

- 1) KMT (music by Lomax & Narration by Johnson)
- Isis/Auset (music by Lomax & Narration by Johnson)
- 3) Osiris/Ausar (music by Bayard & Narration by Johnson)
- 4) Chaos ((music by the Trio & Narration by Johnson)
- 5) Love (music by Bayard & Narration by Johnson)
- 6) Resurrection (music by Lomax & Narration by Johnson)

The Mark Lomax Trio+
Edwin Bayard- tenor & soprano saxophone
Dean Hulett - Bass
Mark Lomax, II- drum set
Rev. Dr. F. Willis Johnson - narration

Recorded at Streetlight Guild
March 19, 2023
Recorded, edited, mixed and mastered by
Dr. Mark Lomax, II
Executive Producer Rev. Dr. F. Willis Johnson
Produced by Dr. Mark Lomax, II
Cover design by Rev. Dr. F. Willis Johnson and Dr.
Mark Lomax, II
Mark plays RBH Drums and Murat Diril Cymbals
exclusively
visit them at www.rbhdrumsusa.com and
www.muratdiril.com
Edwin Bayard plays Sugal mouthpieces and
saxophones exclusively
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www.marklomaxii.com/trio

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## **About the Project**

An idea for music based on the Ausirian resurrection story had been floating around in my head for more than a decade when we first recorded *Isis & Osiris* (I&O) in August of 2012. Released initially on Inarhyme Records to critical acclaim, the record was soon pulled from the physical and digital shelves when we released #BLM without the blessing of the record company. Since then, I&O has sat on the shelf waiting to be resurrected. The project began to gain new life when Rev. Dr. Johnson and I started thinking seriously about a collaboration. This type of partnership is very familiar to the Trio as my father, Rev. Dr. Mark Lomax, Sr., wrote the liner notes for the 2012 release. When Rev. Dr. Johnson approached me about a potential program focused on the resurrection story, we were excited to bring I&O back to life!

**The Resurrection Project** was recorded in a single evening at Columbus, Ohio's hub of Black artistic life and activity, Streetlight Guild, whose proprietor, Scott Woods (a prominent writer and cultural critic), didn't hesitate to make the space available. While Rev. Dr. Johnson and I had worked together in a philanthropic capacity, this was our first time collaborating in a more artistic and spiritual context. **The Resurrection Project** is the product of several conversations between the two related to how to recenter and refocus Spirit and spiritual practice in an ever more tumultuous world. The work now melds poetic verse and sermonette-styled narration with a new and more mature reading of the composition to commemorate the season of new life and beginnings in the hope that listeners are encouraged to

## KMT (Kemet)

Music by Dr. Mark Lomax, II Narration by Rev. Dr. F. Willis Johnson

In the beginning, the Great Spirit had already written destiny for the Cosmos and the Earth. The Earth was formless and void, with darkness resting on the deep surface - until the Divine moved gracefully against the currents. That was when they declared, "Let there be the illumination," Then, a light gleamed across the horizon. The Great Spirit determined that light be known as Day while the dark took the title of Night. And the transition between these two opposites descended into perpetual cycles of the endless morning following an eternal evening.

### Isis/Auset

Music by Dr. Mark Lomax, II Narration by Rev. Dr. F. Willis Johnson

Black Mother Spirit murmurs life into living things, powering, guiding, and inspiring all beings. Growth comes from You.

Black Midwife Spirit births our spirit. Refresh us with the waters of your grace, revitalizing our lives to everlasting bliss. Only through your spirit can we be free, powerful, and radiant.

Black Sista Soulja Spirit transmutes our mistakes. Correct the world's miseducation of us and ourselves. Liberate us from the oppressive chains of this life that make us bondmen to its fallenness.

Black Medicine Woman Spirit cleanses with love. Cures our ailments and heals us from wounds of global injustice. By your spirit, bring us all together into collective resurgence.

Black Butterfly Spirit provides our liberation and protection, uplifting our spirit, so strong and beautiful, awakening the soul from its languid rest.

#### **Osiris**

Music by Edwin Bayard Narration by Rev. Dr. F. Willis Johnson

Infinite. Invisible. Identity. Incarnate.

The Word was kindred to the Most High,
God exists Majestic in the Word.
The Word proclaimed resounding Divinity,
steadfast and prepared for a Universal Ascension.
Each creation birthed by Me,
None ever manifesting by All Else!
Into Being came a Life Inherent,
Illuminating Spirits are bright for a prosperous life.
The Glory of the Light rose splendidly from the darkness,
Denying darkness conquest over within.

Infinite. Invisible. Identity. Incarnate.

The Language of Being pulsated and coursed through veins cascading through history and culture.
We saw the shine of its bountiful depth, Irreplaceable aura, Father to son, Radiating from within, unfaltering to the end.

Infinite. Invisible. Identity. Incarnate.

#### Chaos

Music by The Mark Lomax Trio Invictus by William Ernest Henley (Public Domain)

Out of the Night that covers me Black as the pit from pole to pole, I thank whatever gods may be For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstances, I have not winced nor cried aloud. Under the bludgeonings of chance My head is bloody but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears Looms but the Horror of the Shade, And yet the menace of the years Finds, and shall find, me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate, How charged with punishments the scroll, I am the master of my fate I am the captain of my soul.

### Love

Music by Edwin Bayard Narration by Rev. Dr. F. Willis Johnson

If I speak with the languages of men and of angels, but don't have love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but don't have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but don't have love, it profits me nothing. Love is patient and is kind. Love doesn't envy. Love doesn't brag, is not proud, doesn't behave itself inappropriately, doesn't seek its own way, is not provoked, takes no account of evil; doesn't rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

First Corinthians 13:1-7 World English Bible (Public Domain)

#### Resurrection

Music by Mark Lomax, II Narration by Rev. Dr. F. Willis Johnson

It doesn't make sense that the human one never sinned. Took on humanity's sin as a sacrifice.

It doesn't make sense that the Human One would allow themselves to be wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities, and bare stripes for our healing.

It doesn't make any sense to beat the Human One. Call them everything but God's child. Hang them high. Stretch them wide on a cross to die. Didn't makes sense to perform statesponsored torture or enact capital punishment. Then shot dice for their clothes. And dare them to drink cheap liquor.

Doesn't make any sense that the human one was crucified on Friday, died, and was buried, Dead all Day Saturday, yet able to go down to the pits of Hell and whoop Satan's tail. Early that Sunday morning came the resurrection call.

He ain't here, an offense profound To any ear so keenly trained orig'ly a word seen as a crown From 'Am not' a contract was sustained Largely under an African sheer

The I Am is not here.

Because I Am no longer lying in a tomb
In this garden of broken dreams
I am blossoming
In this empty heart of sorrow
I am healing
In this open window of pain
I am delivered
I am freed from sin's dark chains

In this lonely street of injustice
Death lost its sting
The grave has no power to hold me
In this world of vanity
Sinners come alive with salvation
Repentance comes with grace
My sins are taken for mercy
And love overflows with abundance
Joy sprints with no end
Hope secures eternal bliss
Faith yields eternal peace

He ain't here!

"Black Butterfly Spirit provides our liberation and protection, uplifting our spirit, so strong and beautiful, awakening the soul from its languid rest." - Rev. Dr. F. Willis Johnson

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