

Ben LaMar Gay

Open Arms to Open Us



Ben LaMar Gay's critically-lauded 2018 break out *Downtown Castles Can Never Block The Sun* was more like a greatest hits than a debut album, as it compiled the best of the prolific but obscurity-prone Chicago native artist's previously unreleased music. *Open Arms to Open Us* will be our first release of brand new, freshly baked tunes by Gay, a collection recorded entirely at International Anthem studios in Chicago between March-June 2021.

He is an artist that has been called "visionary" by the *New York Times*. Jeff Parker has called him "one of my favorite musicians on the planet today." *NPR* says "there is no one universe for Ben LaMar Gay, he just sonic booms from one sound to another." Gay lives up to all these statements and more, putting all his best feet forward on this new album. Fluently interweaving jazz, blues, ballads, R&B, raga, new music, nursery rhyme, Tropicalia, two-step, hip-hop and beyond in his most colorful and communicable work yet, it's a beaming expression of Gay's signature omni-genre, "Pan-Americana" brew.

Featured artists on the album include: **OHMME** singers **Sima Cunningham** and **Macie Stewart**, bassist/vocalist/arranger **Ayanna Woods**, multi-disciplinary Rwandan artist **Dorothee Munyaneza**, poet **A.Martinez**, cellist **Tomeka Reid**, and vocalists **Onye Ozuzu**, **Gira Dahnee**, and **Angel Bat Dawid**.



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Ben LaMar Gay – *Open Arms to Open Us*

Format/Release Date:

LP/CD/Digital – November 19th, 2021



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Classic Black LP – 789993991853



7 89993 99188 4
CD – 789993991884



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Indie Retail Exclusive **Dawn Cherry**
color vinyl LP – 789993991860

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In addition to our Classic Black vinyl & CD, a limited-edition **Dawn Cherry** color vinyl version of *Open Arms to Open Us* will be available to **indie retailers only**, for the first pressing only.