

TENOR  
SAXOPHONE

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# NEW YORK CITY

2025

# JD

# ALLEN



# ABOUT

## WE UP RE UP, BACK TO THE FUTURE

**We Up Re Up** is a groundbreaking trio featuring three iconic voices of modern jazz: Nasheet Waits, JD Allen, and Tarus Mateen.

Driven by double bass, explosive drums and an unchained saxophone, the trio channels the pulse of American musical heritage to craft a bold, forward-looking sound.

This is not just a concert — it's a sonic statement, where silence speaks, rhythm revolts, and every note rises with purpose.

We Up Re Up is elevation. It's resistance. It's rebirth.

A high-caliber project rooted in legacy and fueled by innovation — made for the most visionary stages.

### WE UP RE UP

Nasheet Waits –  
JD Allen –  
Tarus Mateen

“BACK TO THE FUTURE”

NEW PROJECT ON TOUR  
2025–2026



### WE UP RE UP

TARUS  
MATEEN

JD ALLEN

NASHEET  
WAITS



2025



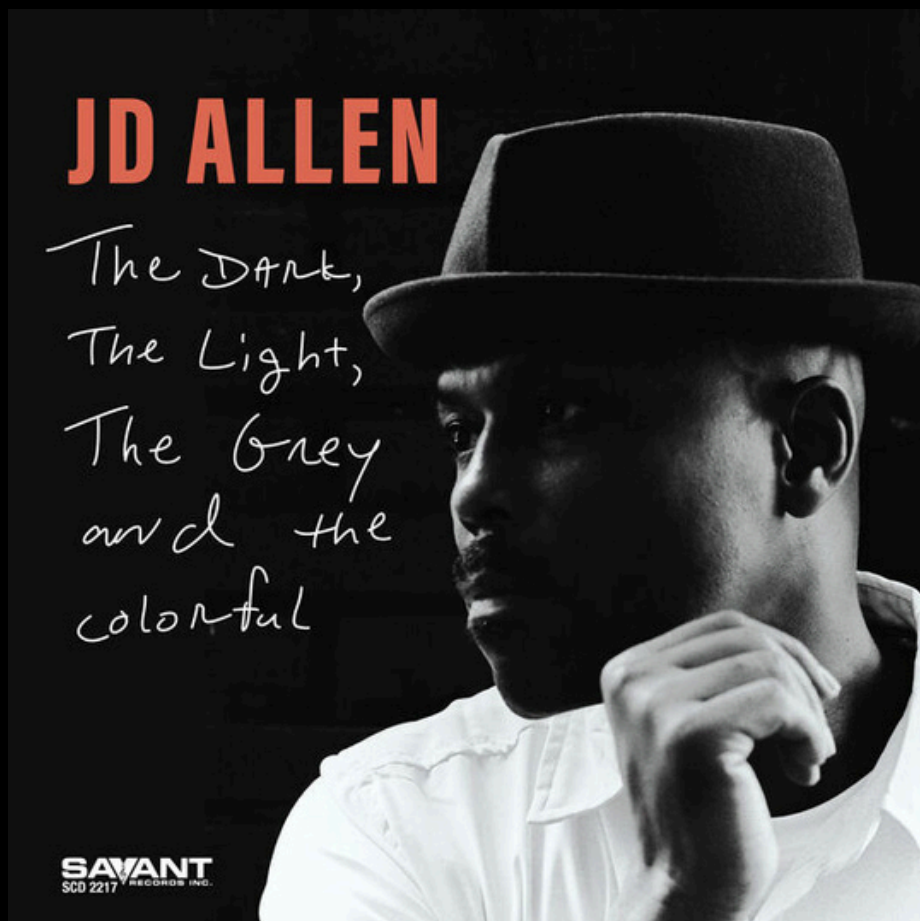
Though the term "visionary" is rather overused, it certainly applies to tenor saxophonist and composer JD Allen. A musical sponge of sorts, Allen is a remarkable amalgam of a wide variety of musical styles and influences, blurring the boundaries of contemporary jazz by creating a dynamic fusion of tradition and modernity. There is a decidedly "third stream" quality to Allen's compositions, combining as they do advanced classical compositional techniques, the incorporation of electronic sounds and the distillation of historic jazz genres such as call and response, field hollers and, of course, the blues. This type of music relies on the total dedication of all the performers and Allen's latest recording features three of his regular colleagues, the acoustic and electric basses of Gregg August and Ian Kenselaar and the remarkably expressive drummer, Nic Cacioppo. These men have worked with Allen on his previous Savant recordings, perhaps most notably on the unofficial trilogy of 'Americana', 'Americana Vol. 2' and 'Barracoon', and can be considered kindred spirits with their leader. Together, they delve into themes of culture and history, offering moving narratives through their sophisticated approach and profound improvisational skills.

JD Allen: tenor saxophone  
Gregg August: bass, electric bass (tr. 8)  
Ian Kenselaar: bass, electric bass (tr. 5-7)  
Nic Cacioppo: drums

# ABOUT

## THE PROJECT

2025





JD Allen is an acclaimed American jazz tenor saxophonist and composer born on December 11, 1972, in Detroit, Michigan. Recognized for his enigmatic and hard-driving style, Allen has established himself as a prominent figure in contemporary jazz.

### **Musical Journey**

Allen's musical apprenticeship began early, becoming a professional musician by age 15. His career truly took off after moving to New York City, where he worked with legendary jazz musicians like Betty Carter, Ron Carter, and George Cables. He has collaborated with numerous contemporary artists including Cindy Blackman, Dave Douglas, and Orrin Evans.

### **Artistic Approach**

Known for his innovative trio format, Allen has been compared to jazz pioneers like Sonny Rollins. His music is characterized by a commitment to an "urban heartbeat" and a desire to keep jazz as a living, evolving folk music. He consistently pushes boundaries, blending traditional jazz styles with contemporary improvisation.

### **Discography and Recognition**

Throughout his career, Allen has released numerous critically acclaimed albums, including:

In Search Of (1999)

I Am I Am (2008)

Shine! (2009)

The Dark, The Light, The Grey And The Colorful (2024)

He has been repeatedly recognized in DownBeat magazine's Critics Poll, being named "Rising Star" and winning awards for tenor saxophone and composition.

### **Musical Philosophy**

Allen's approach to music is deeply personal and uncompromising. He strives to create a unique sound that reflects contemporary urban experiences while maintaining a deep respect for jazz traditions. His willingness to experiment and push musical boundaries has earned him widespread critical acclaim.

As the New York Times described him, JD Allen is "a tenor saxophonist with an enigmatic, elegant and hard-driving style," continuing to be a significant voice in the contemporary jazz landscape

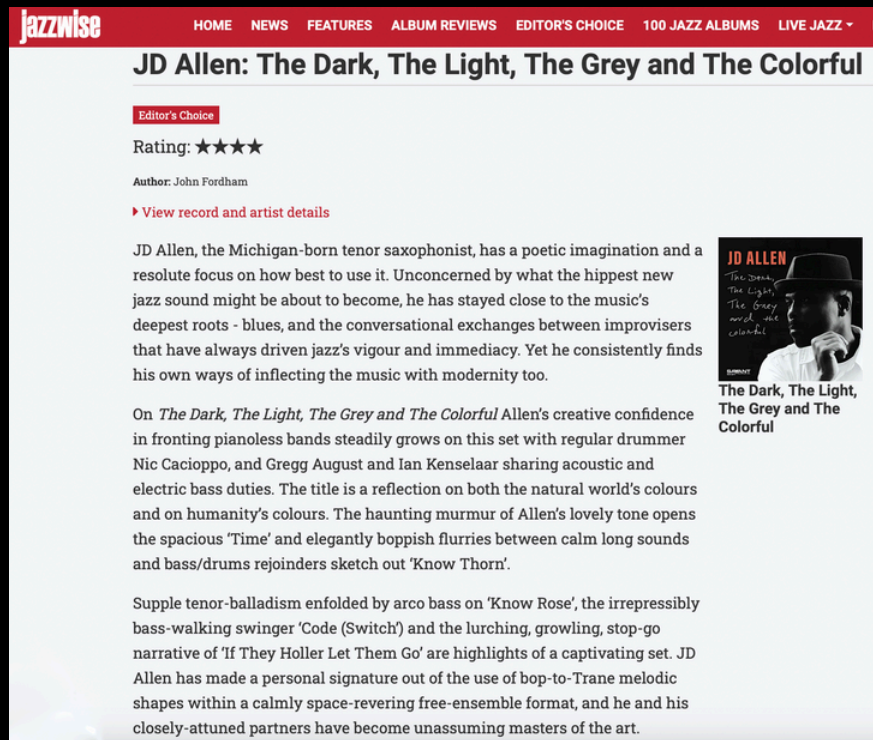




# MEDIA



<https://open.spotify.com/intl-fr/album/6e1Tcs6X3ag1h5xe2WwRe5>



[https://jazzsketches.substack.com/p/whats-new-nov-2024-roundup?utm\\_medium=web](https://jazzsketches.substack.com/p/whats-new-nov-2024-roundup?utm_medium=web)



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