

MINGUS AH UM / CHARLES MINGUS

MINGUS AH UM, the first album for Columbia by Charles Mingus, was recorded in 1959, one of the most productive years for the brilliant, incendiary bassist/composer/sometime pianist. The call of the blues...blistering post-bop...gospel shouts...evocations of early jazz...the civil rights struggle...and, of course, the multi-hued musical palette of his idol, Duke Ellington. All informed Mingus' impassioned music.

With **AH UM**, Mingus (1922-1979) reached one of his peaks as a composer of memorable themes. Two from this album, "Goodbye Pork Pie Hat" (an elegy to tenor saxophone poet Lester Young, who died seven weeks before these sessions) and the sanctified "Better Git It In Your Soul," in the hard-charging 6/8 time that was a Mingus hallmark, have become modern jazz staples. And the scathingly satirical "Fables Of Faubus," "Jelly Roll" (for Jelly Roll Morton, jazz's first important composer), and "Open Letter To Duke" have long since taken their place near the top of the Mingus canon.

The music was performed by two of the bassist's finest ensembles, with saxophonists Booker Ervin and John Handy particularly penetrating with both septets. This expanded, remixed and remastered edition of **AH UM**, clocking in at over 73 minutes, contains three bonus tracks never before available on CD. Originally produced by Teo Macero (whose Columbia credits also include albums by Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk, and Dave Brubeck) and prepared for reissue by Michael Cuscuna, the package includes detailed new liner notes by Mingus biographer Brian Priestley, as well as the original annotation by Diane Dorr-Dorynek. There are also rare photographs from the sessions at Columbia's famed 30th Street Studio in New York.

In *Down Beat's* Music '64 yearbook, **MINGUS AH UM** was named one of the Essential Jazz Albums. It is that and now, with the additional material, more.



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Original Recordings produced by Teo Macero

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| ① | BETTER GIT IT IN YOUR SOUL | 7:21 |
| * ② | GOODBYE PORK PIE HAT | 5:42 |
| * ③ | BOOGIE STOP SHUFFLE | 4:59 |
| ④ | SELF-PORTRAIT IN THREE COLORS | 3:08 |
| * ⑤ | OPEN LETTER TO DUKE | 5:49 |
| * ⑥ | BIRD CALLS | 6:18 |
| ⑦ | FABLES OF FAUBUS | 8:13 |
| ⑧ | PUSSY CAT DUES | 9:13 |
| ⑨ | JELLY ROLL | 6:15 |
| † ⑩ | PEDAL POINT BLUES | 6:28 |
| † ⑪ | GG TRAIN | 4:37 |
| † ⑫ | GIRL OF MY DREAMS | 4:08 |

*First time on CD in unedited form

†BONUS TRACK NOT ON ORIGINAL LP



COLUMBIA



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