

FRANK LONDON

THE ELDERS



SPIRIT STRONGER THAN BLOOD

## FRANK LONDON/THE ELDERS Spirit Stronger Than Blood

Label

ESP-DISK

Format

CD

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ESPDISK 5099CD

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Territory

NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre

FILE UNDER - L - JAZZ

ESP-DISK'

### DESCRIPTION

**Frank London** writes in his liner notes: "*Spirit Stronger Than Blood* pays homage to some of the recordings that shaped my musical-spiritual aesthetic: **Charles Mingus's** *Changes 1&2*, **Booker Little's** *Strength and Sanity*, **Pharaoh Sanders's** *Peace and Love*, **Clifford Thornton's** *Gardens of Harlem*, **Alice Coltrane's** *Ptah, The El Daoud*. Each of these artists, as different as they are from each other, shared a commonality of intention that set me on my life and career path. Their music is spiritual, political, romantic, at turns angry and peaceful, and inspires us to transcend and challenge the inequities of quotidian existence in order to make the world a better place, to heal the broken world (tikkun olam). Some of the songs are inspired by Jewish texts - 'Let There Be Peace' from the prayer Oseh Shalom, asking the Almighty to bring us peace; 'Abundant Love' is in the Jewish prayer mode, Ahava Raba, acknowledging God's infinite love for all of us. 'Poem for a Blue Voice' is a poem by **David Singer**, whose partner **Isabel Deconinck** never let her blood cancer quash her indomitable spirit. 'Resilience and Resistance' are attributes that we need to get through the trials, tribulations, and indignities life can throw at us. Healing of course from disease, but also from trauma, from blind obeisance to dogma. I was recently diagnosed with myelofibrosis, an extremely rare and fatal blood cancer, and dedicate this recording to my dear friends and colleagues who have passed away from blood diseases and other cancers - **Lester Bowie**, **Thomas Chapin**, **Adrienne Cooper**, **Isabelle Deconinck**, **Jewlia Eisenberg**, **Ron Miles**, and my namesake, **Frank London Brown**. Check out all of their work and be inspired." -Frank London, April 2024

**The Elders** are: Frank London, trumpet; **Marilyn Lerner**, piano; **Hilliard Greene**, bass; **Newman Taylor Baker**, drums; **Greg Wall**, sax (tracks 2,3, and 4). Produced by Frank London. Recorded and mixed by **Andy Taub** at Brooklyn Recording in July, 2023. Cover photo by **Anna London**.

### TRACKLISTING

01. Let There Be Peace (7:10)
02. Resilience (9:20)
03. Spirit Stronger Than Blood (8:00)
04. Poem for a Blue Voice (11:07)
05. Abundant Love (9:58)
06. Resistance/Healing (10:00)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **Frank London** and **The Elders'** newest release, *Spirit Stronger Than Blood*.
- RIYL: **Charles Mingus**, **Booker Little**, **Pharaoh Sanders**, **Clifford Thornton**, **Alice Coltrane**.
- **The Elders** are: Frank London, trumpet; **Marilyn Lerner**, piano; **Hilliard Greene**, bass; **Newman Taylor Baker**, drums; **Greg Wall**, sax.
- Produced by Frank London. Recorded and mixed by **Andy Taub** at Brooklyn Recording in July, 2023. Cover photo by **Anna London**.

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