

The Sun Ra Arkestra Releases New Single In Celebration Of Marshall Allen's 100th Birthday



Sun Ra's Arkestra has released the single "Baby Won't You Please Be Mine." The song is the second single from their album, *Lights On A Satellite*. The Arkestra recorded the album

to acknowledge Marshall Allen's 100th birthday this year. Allen has played his alto saxophone in the Arkestra since 1958 and has led the band since Sun Ra's 1993 passing. *Lights On A Satellite* pays homage to his legacy as a multi-instrumentalist, arranger, bandleader, teacher, and keeper of Sun Ra's flame. Sun Ra wrote "Baby, Won't You Please Be Mine" in 1955, and Allen discovered it six years ago. Tara Middleton's vocals, with their Billie Holiday-like phrasing, suggest that the song was written for Holiday or with her in mind. Allen became a centenarian last May, and the new album celebrates that rare milestone as well as Sun Ra's legacy. The video of the band performing "Baby, Won't You Please Be Mine" was filmed in June at the Power Station Studio A in New York City.