**Long Bio**

Langston Hughes II is a multi-instrumentalist, composer, and bandleader based in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area.

The pursuit of music for Hughes has been the result of a lifelong passion made reality. Beginning in his grade school years, Hughes discovered a fascination for music. Despite originally perceiving his love of music merely a hobby, with a plan to study engineering, he recognized music was undeniably intertwined with his sense of being. He trusted his faith as well as himself and committed to his future career as a musician. He revisited his original writings, produced new pieces, worked with peers and mentors, and emerged with a reinvigorated spirit that assured him that he was on his destined path.

Hughes is currently a student at Howard University in Washington, DC studying Jazz performance. While already a versatile artist, he continues to develop his skills, knowledge, and creative thinking under the tutelage of the esteemed professor Charlie Young III and other faculty members including Sais Kamalidiin and Cyrus Chestnut. Together, they have inspired him to begin to build his discography. In early 2021 released his first single “Where From Here?” followed by his first EP *Live at Allyn’s Place* later the same year.

His years of experience and growing technical and creative skills have culminated into a musical practice that emanates with beauty, passion, and positivity. He views his distinctive sound and approach as being a translation of his life experiences intermingled with his iconic musical inspirations. Hughes channels his faith as a follower of Christ and his mission into his dynamic sound. His path of faith and destiny results in extraordinary and elegant sensorial experiences that embrace the ability to persevere.

In his young, yet blossoming, career, Hughes has been the recipient of an array of prestigious awards, achievements, and competitions cementing him as a musical focus. He has been a featured soloist for the United States Army Blues Orchestra, a Gold medal winner of the NAACP's National ACT-SO Competition in Contemporary Instrumental, was featured in Vision & Purpose Lifestyle Magazine, and was selected as one of Strathmore’s Artists in Residence during their 2021-2022 performance season. His talents have been recognized through multiple soloist awards and accolades from organizations such as Howard University, Berklee College of Music, The John F. Kennedy Center, and the DC Jazz Festival.

As he continues to work towards completing his degree at Howard University, he continues to test the boundaries of his own musical prowess and the furthest reaches of his creative spirit. Hughes is enriching the musical culture of his community and embracing collaboration as he grows his inspirational career sharing his music with the world.