

New Release: Press Release

Jazz Pianist/Composer Dr. Greg Satterthwaite's *Savannah Blue* showcases his Jamaican roots mixed with jazz classics and original compositions

(ATLANTA) — On **June 9, 2023**, jazz pianist, composer, arranger, educator, and producer **Dr. Greg Satterthwaite's** sophomore album ***Savannah Blue*** featuring ensemble members **Quentin Baxter** (drummer), **Delbert Felix** (bassist), **Rod Harris Jr.** (guitarist), and **Derrick James** (saxophonist) was released.

Savannah Blue pulls from inspirations of Satterthwaite's Jamaican heritage, his passion for honoring the great legacy of jazz music, and creating original compositions that represent sophistication, memorable melodies, tranquil harmonies, and gritty swing.

The **2023 South Arts Jazz Road Tours** artist and University of Georgia jazz professor says: "I truly appreciate the opportunity to uplift, share, and build community through such a rich American art form, thus the album ***Savannah Blue*** is my contribution to sustaining the amazing art form known as jazz."

The title of the album pays homage to Savannah, Ga., where Satterthwaite found an abundance of arts & culture and the blue waters from the Atlantic Ocean. Thus, the name ***Savannah Blue*** was realized.

Through connecting with the phenomenal Savannah, Ga.-based native jazz bassist, Delbert Felix in 2022, Satterthwaite conducted his inaugural Savannah performance at Good Times Jazz Bar & Restaurant, marking his now-forever connection with the amazing city. The album's title track "***Savannah Blue***" artistically signifies the musical journey of performing in Savannah with hard-hitting swing, and dynamic solos from band members.

Born on the island of Jamaica, Satterthwaite infuses his Caribbean roots in the track "***Island Roots***", a blend of Afro-Cuban and reggae rhythms. The music traditions of the West Indies are celebrated on the track "***Jazzy One Drop***", which embodies a beautiful melody that is accompanied by a strong reggae one-drop rhythm.

In honor of some of the great jazz legends, "***Take Your Time***" pays homage to Ahmad Jamal while offering rhythms and a melody that are both relaxing and introspective in nature. The Billy Strayhorn classic "***Take The 'A' Train***" is Satterthwaite's nod to one of the most prolific and celebrated jazz composers. Satterthwaite's arrangement of the composition is unique, piano-forward, and carries the essence of the iconic composition in a trio format.

Always welcoming of inspiration outside the jazz canon, "***La Belle Dame Sans Regrets***" is a song written by Sting and Dominic Miller. It was covered and is set to a beautiful bossa nova rhythm with the sounds of lush brushes on the drums, the warm presence of the bass, and the radiant playing of the melody on piano.

Reflecting on the highs and lows of life, "***Beware the Tides***" pulls from Satterthwaite's upbringing of growing up around the water and having human experiences that mirror the ocean's tides. With a strong and courageous melody that haunts and pulls and provides a resolution with hope and determination, the original composition rises and falls while taking a musical expedition. Hard-hitting and full of jazz traditions, "***Tippin***" uses a modern harmonic approach with a driving swing beat.

More details can be found at www.gregonkeys.com.

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More about Dr. Greg Satterthwaite

Melodic, soulful, and smooth, Dr. Greg Satterthwaite brings an energy and touch to the piano that has become his signature sound. As a jazz artist, Satterthwaite brings forth improvisational music that speaks to who he is as a performer and composer. His performances are rooted in his passion to continue to uphold the legacy and rich tradition of jazz music and the pioneers and innovators that created such a phenomenal art form.

Graduating from some of the nation's most prestigious jazz programs, Satterthwaite earned his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of North Texas in Jazz Piano Performance, a Master of Arts in Commercial Music from Florida Atlantic University, and a Bachelor of Music from the University of Miami. Satterthwaite is an Assistant Professor of Jazz Piano and African American Studies at the University of Georgia. He has studied with Stephen Scott, Ron Miller, Pat Coil, Dave Meder, Quincy Davis, Brad Leali, and Lynn Seaton. His educational experiences have impacted his teaching philosophy as he brings forth the knowledge, observations, and backgrounds of the educators, artists, and creative makers that he has interacted with and learned from over the years. As a scholarly contribution to the field, Satterthwaite presented "Beyond Fourths and Pentatonics: A Critical Analysis of Selected Recordings of McCoy Tyner "1962 to 1963" at the national 2021 Jazz Education Network Conference.

Satterthwaite has performed at festivals and venues including the Swan City Piano Festival, Denton Arts and Jazz Festival, SunFest, the Velvet Note, Good Times Jazz Bar & Restaurant, the University of South Carolina, and the Murchison Performing Arts Center to name a few. In 2022, he performed with the Marcus Lewis Big Band: Brass and Boujee during the 2022 Jazz Education Network national conference. Additionally, he has either performed or recorded with Grammy winning and nominated artists including Terreon Gully, Quentin Baxter, Rodney Whitaker, Curtis Lundy, and Delbert Felix. Satterthwaite arranged and composed all songs on his debut album "Who I Am," which can be heard on major music streaming platforms, and his sophomore album "Savannah Blue," is to be released June 9, 2023. He is the co-founder of [JazzSpire](#), a platform that inspires, lifts, and brightens everyday life through the arts.

For more information, visit www.gregonkeys.com.

Track listing

1. Take Your Time (6:11)
2. Savannah Blue (5:49)
3. Island Roots (5:58)
4. Take the "A" Train (4:31)
5. Beware the Tides (5:46)
6. Tippin' (4:55)
7. La Belle Dame Sans Regrets (5:26)
8. Jazzy One Drop (6:45)