

Saxophonist Langston Hughes II is a New York City-based multi-instrumentalist, composer, and bandleader who creates inspirational original compositions and reimaginings of classic songs. Langston's years of experience and growing technical and creative skills have created a distinctive sound that emanates beauty, passion, and positivity. He views his concept and approach as more than a genre but a translation of his life experiences. Langston channels his upbringing in gospel music from artists like Mahalia Jackson, John P. Kee, Sam Cooke, and Richard Smallwood with his love and passion for the jazz tradition to create a distinctive, dynamic sound and style.

Langston was a featured soloist for the United States Army Blues Orchestra and a Strathmore Artist in Residence during their 2021-2022 performance season. He was also selected to participate in the Betty Carter Jazz Ahead Residency at the John F. Kennedy Center where he had the opportunity to study under jazz greats such as Jason Moran, Marcus Printup, Peter Martin, Clarence Penn, Casey Benjamin, Micheal Bowie, Chris Thomas, and Chamille Thurman. Currently, Langston is preparing to pursue a graduate degree in Jazz studies at The Juilliard School, a leading private performing arts conservatory in New York City this upcoming year.