

Art Farmer - Manhattan (1981)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Context* (6:53) 2. *Blue Wail* (5:06) 3. *Manhattan* (6:50) 4. *Passport* (6:48) 5. *Arrival* (6:51)
6. *Back Door Beauty* (6:17) Art Farmer - flugelhorn Sahib Shihab - baritone & soprano sax
Kenny Drew - piano Mads Vinding - bass Ed Thigpen – drums Rec.Barigozzi Studios, Milano
November 29-30,1981 Soul Note

Art Farmer added a bit of a different twist for these 1981 studio sessions, including baritone saxophonist Sahib Shihab with him in the front line, along with fellow expatriate Americans Kenny Drew (piano) and Ed Thigpen (drums), plus bassist Mads Vinding. Drew contributed the first two songs, including the boisterous mid-tempo opener "Context" and the brisk blues "Blue Wail," both top-notch features for Farmer and Shihab. The intricate take of Charlie Parker's "Passport" and Bennie Wallace's inventive "Back Door Beauty" find Shihab switching to soprano sax. The only standard is a lush take of "Manhattan," showcasing the leader's lyrical flugelhorn. This release is a little short by CD standards, clocking under 40 minutes, but it will be of great interest to fans of Art Farmer. ---Ken Dryden, Rovi

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