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**ALABASTER DEPLUME ANNOUNCES *PROLOGUE TO A BLADE*:**

**SHARES NEW EP, POETRY BOOK & TOUR**

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(photo by Sofia Lambrou)

**October 15th, 2024** – Internationally acclaimed saxophonist, poet, and songwriter **Alabaster DePlume** announces ***Prologue To A Blade***—a series of creative statements setting the stage for a larger project arriving next year via **International Anthem**. The **new EP** features two tracks recorded in Palestine with local musicians, pianist **Sami El-Enany** and Qanoun player **Laith Albandak**, and a third track inspired by the experience of living in solidarity with the people of Palestine. The EP is accompanied by news of DePlume’s **debut poetry book** and **a tour of the US and Europe**. This body of work lays the foundation for his evolving artistic journey, exploring the role of dignity in healing and its impact on community, society, and humanity.

**Listen to the EP** [**here**](https://international-anthem.lnk.to/Cremisan-ProloguetoABlade)

**Preorder the poetry book** [**here**](https://alabasterdeplume.bandcamp.com/merch/looking-for-my-value-prologue-to-a-blade-2)

**Tickets for the tour go on sale this Friday, see info** [**here**](http://www.alabaster-deplume.com/tour)

The EP, titled ***Cremisan: Prologue To A Blade*** features three deeply personal and evocative new tracks, recorded in locations of profound importance. Each piece serves as a testament to the power of collaboration and the importance of place in shaping the artistic process.

The EP’s first two tracks, “Honeycomb” and “Cremisan,” were recorded in the experimental arts, music and architecture space The Wonder Cabinet in Bethlehem, Palestine, during DePlume’s ‘Sounds Of Places’ residency. The opening track, the wintry and elegiac “Honeycomb,” is a somber duet recorded with pianist **Sami El-Enany.**

“Cremisan” — recorded in the final moments of a day-long non-stop performance put on by **Radio alHara** and **Wonder Cabinet** on June 1, 2024, that featured a robust array of local artists and musicians — finds DePlume’s wavering saxophone leads playing against featured artist **Laith Albandak’s** steadfast Qanoun in a call and response that gestures at both grief and resilience. The team planned and delivered this event as “a cry from the Cremisan Valley (Bethlehem, Palestine) to Rafah (Gaza),” and what you hear is its conclusion.

The EP concludes with “Gifts Of Olive,” a solemn melody that references **Refaat Alareer**’s poem **“If I Must Die.”**

**DePlume shares: *“To set you up for what’s coming I’ve layered up these compositions in private, and with friends. It’s a prologue to what we’re bringing next. It ushers it in. I went towards things I feared, to be in the places where this music has come from. Places in the world and in myself, where dignity and sovereignty has its role in the work of healing.”***

Accompanying the release of the EP is DePlume’s first poetry collection, ***Looking For My Value: Prologue To A Blade***, which offers readers a deeper exploration of the themes of dignity, sovereignty, and the work of healing that are present in his music. Arriving as a limited gatefold custom A6 pocket book featuring cover art by British illustrator [**Ian Wright**](https://www.instagram.com/misterianw/) and design by London-based [**Jamie Coull**](https://www.instagram.com/jamiecoull/), this collection features raw and vulnerable prose that reflects DePlume’s journey toward finding and taking responsibility for his own value as a human being.

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The meaning of this work will be further explored during Alabaster’s upcoming 2025 tour, ***A Blade Because...*,** with headline shows across the US, UK, and EU.**Tickets for the tour go on sale this Friday, for more info please visit**[**www.alabaster-deplume.com/tour**](http://www.alabaster-deplume.com/tour)

14-Mar-2025 - Philadelphia, PA @ Underground Arts

15-Mar-2025 - Kingston, NY @ Tubby’s

16-Mar-2025 - New York, NY @ Le Poisson Rouge

18-Mar-2025 - Washington, DC @ Black Cat

19-Mar-2025 - Chicago, IL @ Thalia Hall

21-Mar-2025 - Seattle, WA @ Tractor Tavern

22-Mar-2025 - Portland, OR @ Polaris Hall

23-Mar-2025 - San Francisco, CA @ Great American Music Hall

25-Mar-2025 - Los Angeles, CA @ The Regent

27-Mar-2025 - Knoxville, TN @ Big Ears Festival

29-Apr-2025 - Norwich, UK @ Norwich Arts Centre

30-Apr-2025 - Leeds, UK @ Brudenell Social Club

1-May-2025 - Newcastle, UK @ Gosforth Civic Hall

2-May-2025 - Glasgow, UK @ Mono

3-May-2025 - Manchester, UK @ Gorilla

6-May-2025 - Bristol, UK @ Trinity Centre

7-May-2025 - Exeter, UK @ Phoenix

8-May-2025 - Southampton, UK @ Papillon

9-May-2025 - London, UK @ Hackney Church

10-May-2025 - Brighton, UK @ Concorde 2

17-May-2025 - Berlin, DE @ TBC

21-May-2025 - Paris, FR @ Le Petit Bain

22-May-2025 - Lille, FR @ L'Aéronef

23-May-2025 - Brussels, BE @ TBC

24-May-2025 - Amsterdam, NL @ Zonnehuis

25-May-2025 - Nijmegen, NL @ Doornroosje

26-May-2025 - Rotterdam, NL @ Bird



(*Cremisan: Prologue To A Blade* digital cover art by photographer [Mikaela Burstow](https://www.instagram.com/architecturalphotographer/?hl=en))

Alabaster DePlume: [Website](https://www.alabaster-deplume.com/) | [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/alabaster_deplume/?hl=en) | [Bandcamp](https://alabasterdeplume.bandcamp.com/) | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057753771232) | [Twitter](https://twitter.com/a_deplume)

International Anthem: [Website](https://www.intlanthem.com/) | [Bandcamp](https://intlanthem.bandcamp.com/) | [Twitter](https://twitter.com/intlanthem?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor) | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/intlanthem/) | [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/intlanthem/?hl=en)