





## AL ROSS & THE PLANETS SHARE LYRIC VIDEO FOR SOFT ROCK SINGLE "FAITH"

"Faith" is out today digitally in advance of September's Blue Crystal album

Lyric Video on YouTube: "Faith"

Recorded at Abbey Road Studios, this long-running London band's stylistically-diverse second LP features samba-tinged jazz grooves, new pop classics, bluesy rockers, and soul-infused gospel

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / July 30, 2021 — Al Ross & the Planets today release "Faith," the latest digital single and lyric video from the group's upcoming second album. *Blue Crystal* follows September 10 on CD and download via AFR Records/MVD Entertainment. Pre-order at Amazon.

Gliding on a light samba rhythm, "Faith" shares the soft rock appeal of such European acts as The Blue Nile, Matt Bianco, Double, and China Crisis. Bandleader Al Ross takes center stage with a richly romantic vocal.

"Faith' was written by me and Alex Mungo," Ross said. "The song was inspired by our love of early sixties jazz, in particular the Stan Getz and Charlie Byrd collaboration Jazz Samba. I had seen the jazz trio Tantrum perform in Oxfordshire, and was so impressed that I invited Paul Jefferies to play double bass on our session. 'Faith' came together fairly quickly at Abbey Road Studios. Marc Rapson recorded the piano part on the famous Steinway Grand in Studio 2. He also used the very same Hammond organ that the Beatles played during the recording of Abbey Road."

Additional musicians on the track are drummer Terry Mascall, saxophonist Dave Brammer, guitarist Julian Mungo, and guitarist and backing vocalist Lyndon Connah.

When Al Ross & the Planets entered Abbey Road to commence recording *Blue Crystal* in January 2020, they never guessed that a pandemic was about to turn their plans upside down. Members would soon be sidelined by the virus, travel around London became forbidden, and — when sessions did finally resume in May — there was a long list of safety measures.

"Facing huge obstacles in a horrendous year, with two members getting Covid, we managed to produce a truly great album," said Ross. "It was a wonderful way to pass the hours rather than staying at home feeling depressed. We were able to create something positive out of 2020."

## **Blue Crystal**: Tracklist

- 1. Crossroads
- 2. Something Changed My Mind
- 3. Faith
- 4. Blue Crystal
- 5. In the Middle of the Night
- 6. All the Things We Started (
- 7. Checkin' Out the Vibe
- 8. Sweet Memories of You

Album produced by Marc Rapson. Additional production by Lyndon Connah. Engineered by Lewis Jones (Abbey Road), Andy Maxwell (Assistant Engineer, Abbey Road), and Jamie Masters (Echo Studios, Buckinghamshire). Mixed by Chris Bolster (Abbey Road). Mastered by Tim Debney (Fluid Mastering Studios, London).

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