



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 4, 2016

**SAXOPHONIST MARCUS STRICKLAND SET TO
RELEASE**

**BLUE NOTE/REVIVE MUSIC DEBUT *NIHIL NOVI*
ON APRIL 15**

**PRODUCED BY MESHELL NDEGEOCELLO THE ALBUM
FEATURES**

**STRICKLAND'S BAND TWI-LIFE WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
INCLUDING**

**JEAN BAYLOR, ROBERT GLASPER, PINO PALLADINO &
CHRIS DAVE**



Nihil Novi, the remarkable Blue Note/Revive Music debut by **Marcus Strickland's Twi-Life**, is set for an April 15 release. The album is available for pre-order now on [CD](#) or [digital download](#). Fans who pre-order the download will immediately receive the lead track "**Drive**," which is also available today as a single on [streaming services](#). Strickland has also announced tour dates including an NYC album release show presented by Revive Music at [\(le\) poisson rouge](#) on April 12.

“People have to be careful when they call something new,” says Strickland. “I think about what’s around me instead of trying to create something new. Everything is inspired by something else. Ecclesiastes says: ‘There’s nothing new under the sun.’”

The saxophonist may wax philosophical when he gets talking about *Nihil Novi* (a Latin phrase that translates to “*nothing new*”) but make no mistake, this is music for your heart and your feet as well your mind. Along with producer **Meshell Ndegeocello**, he draws upon a world of music from J Dilla’s hip-hop beat making to Bartók’s Hungarian folk music. From Fela’s propulsive Afrobeat to Mingus’ freewheeling jazz truths. This is music of the people and for the people. The diversity of influences and progressive approach to production are reflective of Revive Music’s mission to elevate music by breaking with purist ideals and discussions of genre to create transcendent sonic experiences.

Since the turn of the century, the Miami-native has made indelible imprints on the modern jazz scene playing with such titans as Roy Haynes, Dave Douglas and Jeff “Tain” Waits and reinvigorating the genre with his own band Twi-Life. Beginning with his 2001 debut, *At Last* (Fresh Sounds/New Talent), he’s also been steadily building an impressive body of work. Last year Marcus appeared on Blue Note/Revive Music’s acclaimed statement of purpose, *Supreme Sonacy Vol. 1*, on which he and singer Christie Dashiell delivered a spellbinding makeover of Janet Jackson’s 1986 quiet-storm classic, “[Let’s Wait Awhile](#).” *The New York Times* review singled out the track, writing that it “approaches the high bar for simmering R&B covers set by the Robert Glasper Experiment.”

Nihil Novi picks up some of the sonic cues from *Supreme Sonacy*, but with production help from Ndegeocello, Strickland paints an even more expansive musical canvas. The latest incarnation of Twi-Life is the centerpiece: trumpeter **Keyon Harrold** (known for his work with

such R&B and hip-hop artists as D'Angelo, Erykah Badu, Jay-Z and Common), bassist **Kyle Miles**, drummer **Charles Haynes**, organist **Mitch Henry**, and keyboardist **Masayuki Hirano**. *Nihil Novi* also includes appearances from singer **Jean Baylor**, bassists **Pino Palladino** and Ndegeocello, keyboardist **James Francies**, drummer **Chris Dave**, guitarist **Chris Bruce**, and pianist and fellow Blue Note artist **Robert Glasper**.

Consisting entirely of original songs, *Nihil Novi* was born of Strickland's passion for beat making, which has shaped both the way he composes and how he improvises. It also inspired him to recruit Ndegeocello as the album's producer. "Because of all the layers and textures involved, I wanted someone who was very experienced at producing and creating this kind of music," Marcus explains. "Meshell is genre-less; she doesn't go by genres. She goes by who *she* is as a person. And that's exactly what I'm doing. I'm not interested in affixing myself to a particular genre; I want to express who I am musically as a person."

MARCUS STRICKLAND – TOUR DATES:

March 4-5 – Manchester Craftsmen's Guild – Pittsburgh, PA

April 12 – (le) poisson rouge – New York, NY

April 22 – Club Bahnhof Ehrenfeld – Cologne, Germany

April 25 – Fasching – Stockholm, Sweden

April 26 – New Morning – Paris, France

April 27 – Porgy & Bess – Vienna, Austria

April 28 – Unterfahrt – Munich, Germany

April 29 – Südhaus – Tübingen, Germany

April 30 – Cheltenham Jazz Festival – Cheltenham, UK

May 6 – Art of Cool Fest – Durham, NC

June 8-13 – Australian Tour

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Pre-order Nihil Novi on [iTunes](#) or [Amazon](#) Stream “Drive” on [Spotify](#)

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Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Marcus Strickland, Christie Dashiell - Let's Wait Awhile (Audio)



For more information and visuals go website: <http://marcusstrickland.com>