



HEAD039  
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# RED FISH BLUE DEEP

In the Santeria religion, Elegua is the guardian of entrances, roads and paths. He is the first Orisha (Guardian Spirit) to be invoked in a ceremony and the last one to be bid farewell. He has to be first in anything, just like a spoiled child. The first rhythms of the drums belong to him. He must be petitioned before all the oracles. Orunmila is the one who communicates, but Elegua guards the paths of communication. It is he who acts as an intermediary between human beings and other Orishas.

Red Fish Blue's 'Deep' takes its cues from this and in accordance with Santeria, the album opens and closes with the band paying respect to Elegua.

Red Fish Blue combines the talents of four outstanding musicians, two each from Melbourne and Sydney, who came together for what was expected to be a one night only gig at the Side On Café in Sydney in 2000. The combination worked so well, they decided to overcome geographic hurdles to work together as often as possible.

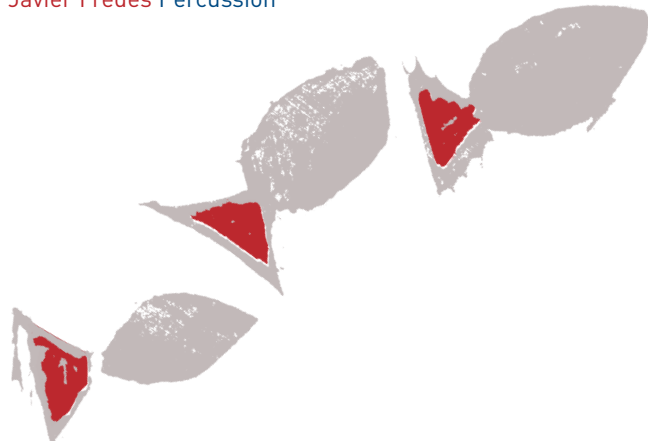
Red Fish Blue is:

**Sam Keevers** Piano

**Simon Barker** Drums

**Brett Hirst** Bass

**Javier Fredes** Percussion



Sam Keevers has been one of Melbourne's most respected jazz pianists since moving from Brisbane in 1990. He has worked with artists including Vince Jones, Ian Chaplin and Scott Tinkler, as well as internationals Chris Potter and Bobby Previte. He leads his own Trio and the exciting Latin jazz ensemble, Los Cabrones.

Brett Hirst moved from New Zealand to Sydney in 1998. He has been in constant demand, working with such artists as Mike Nock, Vince Jones, James Muller, Lily Dior, Dale Barlow, Sean Wayland, Mark Isaacs, Phil Slater, Nick McBride, Gerard Masters and Cathy Harley.

Simon Barker has likewise been in high demand around Sydney over recent years. Among the many bands he has worked with have been Vince Jones, Phil Slater, Scott Tinkler, Mark Isaacs and James Muller.

While Sam first worked with Brett and Simon in Vince Jones' band, he has an even longer-running association with Javier Fredes, through Los Cabrones. Javier's other credits include work with Stephen Sedergreen and visiting artists such as Marlon Simon and Bobby Previte.

The players' long combined association and the diversity of their experiences, including Javier and Simon's studies of traditional Cuban and Korean drumming respectively, have allowed Red Fish Blue to draw from many varied influences when writing and performing. The band's all-original repertoire (written by Sam or Brett) takes advantage of the group's history and leaves room for some spontaneously improvised duets. The result is music of unique depth and texture, rich with Latin rhythms and Cuban percussion.



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