

## Baikida Carroll – Orange Fish Tears (1974)

Written by bluesever

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A1. *Orange Fish Tears* {Baikida Carroll} (8:52) A2. *Forest Scorpion* {Baikida Carroll} (10:54)  
B1. *Rue Roger* {Oliver Lake} (9:40) B2. *Porte D'Orléans* {Baikida Carroll} (14:06) Musicians:  
Baikida E.J. Carroll - Trumpet, Flugelhorn, Cowbell, Seal Horn, Log Drum, Small Percussions  
Oliver Lake - Soprano, Alto & Tenor Saxophones, Flute, Bamboo Flute, Tumbali, Gong,  
Percussion Manuel Villardel - Piano, Electric Piano, Percussion Nana Vasconcelos - Cuica,  
Tabla, Timbales, Bells, Percussion

Note: A Cuíca or "kweeca" is a Brazilian friction drum often used in samba music. The tone it produces has a high-pitched squeaky timbre. A Tumali or "Tagalog" is an aerophone blowing instrument made from carabao horn. It is used for calling people or sending messages over wide distances.

This is Baikida E.J. Carroll's first album as a leader. It has been severely overlooked with no reissue either on LP or CD. In this regard it is quite a rare vinyl.

The album showcases some of the diverse facets of his musical interests. "Orange Fish Tears" builds up quite a spiritual and peaceful atmosphere for the listener, similar to early Marion Brown multi-instrumental albums. "Forest Scorpion" invokes a real ethnic flavour. There is also a Latin American dance style brought out by the repetitive rhythm patterns created on an assortment of percussion instruments. "Rue Roger" is duo between Carroll and Oliver Lake; it is quite an abstract piece that leads into free improvisation similar to that produced by members of the Art Ensemble of Chicago, especially Roscoe Mitchell. "Porte D'Orléans" is a piece where

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the group as a whole also launches into free improvisation very much in the style that the Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians (AACM) and the Black Artists Group (BAG) were performing around this period. There are also similarities to some of the early albums that Steve Lacy was producing whilst in Paris. Backed with Oliver Lake and Nana Vasconcelos this album was destined to make its mark. Both players have gone onto record extensively with a broad spectrum of modern jazz groups. Overall it is very much an interesting and enchanting album to fill your mind. A real lost gem!

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