Grant Green - Blue Breakbeats (1998)

1. Ain't It Funky Now 2. Cantaloupe Woman 3. The Windjammer 4. Sookie, Sookie 5. Ease Back 6. The Final Comedown Personnel: Grant Green — guitar Claude Bartee, Jr. — tenor sax Harold Vick — soprano sax Irwin "Marky" Markowitz, Marvin Stamm, Blue Mitchell — trumpets Phil Bodner — woodwind Billy Wooten, William Bivens — vibes Cornell Dupree — guitar Ronnie Foster, Neal Creque — organ Clarence Palmer, Emanuel Riggins — piano Richard Tee — keyboards Jimmy Lewis, Gordon Edwards, Chuck Rainey — bass Ralph MacDonald — percussion Ray Armando, Joseph Armstrong, Candido Camero — congas Richard Landrum — bongos Idris Muhammad, Grady Tate — drums

Blue Breakbeats is an essential collection of six of the funkiest breakbeat heavy songs in Grant Green's deep Blue Note catalog. Prolifically sampled by beat thirsty hip-hop producers and stylistically influential in separating Green from Wes Montgomery's ever-looming shadow, these songs were compiled from Green Is Beautiful, Visions, Alive!, Carryin' On, and The Final Come Down by DJ Smash. While certainly nothing new here for the collector, it's a great starter piece for newcomers and those seeking out the original breaks sampled over and over on late 20th century hip-hop records. Playful grooves and classic drumbeats thump underneath some of the slickest jazz guitar work of the 1970s, while stellar instrumentation alone is worth the price of admission. With it being said that these groundbreaking Blue Note soul/jazz records are the foundation of hip-hop, these cuts are brick-by-brick testimonials. ---Nicholas Gordon, Rovi

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