

Devontè Hynes

Raised in England, Devonté Hynes started in the punk band Test Icicles before releasing two orchestral acoustic pop records as Lightspeed Champion. Since 2011, Hynes has released six solo albums under the name Blood Orange – Coastal Grooves, Cupid Deluxe, Freetown Sound, Negro Swan, and most recently Essex Honey, as well as 2019's Angel's Pulse mixtape, all of which have been met with critical acclaim. His most recent album, Essex Honey, was named one of the best albums of 2025 by critics and fans alike. Essex Honey is a powerful meditation on growing up in Essex (Greater London) and the way music has inspired, healed, and interwoven itself through Hynes' life.

In addition to his work as Blood Orange, Hynes has written and produced for pop music superstars including Mariah Carey, A\$AP Rocky, and Solange among many others. His 2024 collaboration with Nathy Peluso, *El Día Que Perdí Mi Juventud*, won the Latin Grammy Award for Best Alternative Song.

Hynes is also an accomplished composer who has made an impressive mark for himself within the classical music space. In 2018, Hynes was one of four pianists invited to play alongside Phillip Glass at the Kennedy Center, and in 2020, he was nominated for a Grammy in the category of Best Chamber Music or Small Ensemble Performance for his work with Third Coast Percussion on their collaborative album *Fields*. His debut Concerto for piano and strings, *Happenings*, premiered at New York's Little Island Festival in 2021, and has collaborated with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, the LA Philharmonic, and the London Symphony Orchestra, among others for sold out performances of his Selected Classical Works program.

His composition work has extended into film and television, with credits including the scores for Melina Matsoukas' *Queen and Slim*, Luca Guadagnino's *We Are Who We Are*, Rebecca Hall's *Passing*, and Paul Schrader's *Master Gardener*. Most recently, Hynes scored *The Invite*, a new film directed by Olivia Wilde that premiered at Sundance and will be released by A24 in 2026.