

**Ascension: John Coltrane**

I didn't pick up the tenor  
and soprano  
for legendhood.  
I wanted only to explore chords  
into progression, step into another world.  
I had to escape anything too strict,  
take Giant Steps all the way  
from Hamlet, North Carolina.  
The music shimmered like a lake  
inside me and turned blue.  
It was kind of spiritual.  
I thought of extending the scales.  
If you could have been in the place,  
you would have doused doubt, young blood.  
I wanted to play on and on  
and sail as long as the horn could  
and eventually come back again  
as if I had never left.  
It was maybe the only time  
when I left my body.