

Saxophonist / Composer / Educator

www.jonathansuazo.net

Award-winning Puerto Rican saxophonist, composer, and educator whose work bridges contemporary jazz and afro-caribbean traditions through a powerful cross-cultural lens. Grounded in heritage, driven by emotional storytelling, and unafraid to venture into a wide variety of styles, Suazo uses music as a vehicle to share the rhythms, emotions, and lived experiences within a post-bop / spiritual jazz framework.

In 2023, Jonathan was named one of the Top Ten Emerging Jazz Artists by the GRAMMYs, marking a major milestone in his career. That same year, his debut album Ricano (Ropeadope Records) was recognized by The New York Times as one of the Best Jazz Albums of 2023, further establishing him as a distinctive new voice in the genre.



A graduate of the Berklee Global Jazz Institute Masters program, Suazo has received numerous honors and national recognitions for both artistic excellence and community impact. These include the 2024 Chamber Music America New Jazz Works Grant, the WBUR Makers Series Award for creating meaningful cultural impact within the Boston community, the South Arts Jazz Road Tours Grant (Winter 2023), and the Berklee Urban Service Award for his efforts to raise awareness and provide humanitarian support for Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria.

Jonathan's performance and collaboration credits reflect his versatility and deep connection to both the jazz and Latin music worlds. He has shared the stage and studio with artists such as Miguel Zenón, Terri Lyne Carrington, David Sánchez, Benito González, Zaccai Curtis, Charlie Sepúlveda, Gonzalo Grau, Danilo Pérez, Ricky Rodriguez, Ileana Cabra (iLÉ), Calma Carmona, Rakalam Bob Moses, Joe Lovano, Paoli Mejías, Humberto Ramírez, David Rivera, Tito Matos, Ricardo Pons, William Cepeda, Jon Secada, Pedro Capó, Obie Bermúdez, Hans Glawischnig, Silverio Pérez, and Tony Escapa, among many others.



CURRENT FORMATS:

Jonathan Suazo

QUARTET or QUINTET

A potent musical experience that takes the audience on a journey rooted in post-bop, spiritual jazz, and latin jazz traditions.
Emotional content with many twists and turns, unafraid to dive into a wide variety of styles.

VIDEOS
(click on title):

1- ***LLAMADO***

2- ***CALLE HIJA DEL CARIBE***

3- ***REDENCIÓN***

4- ***RONA BLUES***

Ricano Vol. 2



WALTER SMITH III
(BLUE NOTE RECORDING ARTIST
SAXOPHONIST/COMPOSER)

"Jonathan Suazo plays with HEART, and his writing invites you to experience Ricano Vol.2 with your HEART. Brilliant playing and writing throughout, full of joy and excitement, this album is a major statement by a major artist."

JOSEF WOODARD
(DOWNBEAT MAGAZINE)

"The music bears out the passionate dedication to a musical ethos, man aging to balance lyrical and melodic graces with energetic and sophisticated twists and turns"

LYDIA LIEBMAN
(LLP)

"Ricano Vol. 2 offers answers, not in words, but in the lived honesty of the music itself. It's an album that reflects growth, family, culture, and faith, all distilled into a sound that feels both timeless and urgently present."

THIERRY DE CLEMENSAT
(PARIS MOVE)

"This is rich music in the truest sense of the word, rich in harmony, rhythm, emotional depth, and cultural memory, the kind of richness that defined so much of the greatest jazz produced during the twentieth century. Without question, this is a major jazz album."



CONTACT

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