

## WILLIAM CEPEDA INTERNATIONAL QUINTET

### WORLD TOUR

Fulfilling his interest in creating music that goes beyond the traditional rhythms of jazz, William Cepeda has united a group of virtuoso musicians from different parts of the world and has created what he calls the INTERNATIONAL QUINTET. The group also invited a special guest to complete their vision of sound fusion. After years of preparation, the ensemble brings us the unforgettable tour UNITY.

Some of the musicians from the INTERNATIONAL QUINTET have individual recordings, where they show their genius and performance of their instruments, as well as the composition muse that surrounds them. Their works have been recognized and they have received excellent acclaim for their dedication and respect for the music and audience.

It has been the dream of William Cepeda to bring them together, and today it is fulfilled. The INTERNATIONAL QUINTET wants to present their excellence on the stage with their funk style of contemporary jazz and their dynamic musicality. In addition, they want to show their audience the artistic capacity they have developed and the experience they have gained through their ascending careers.

The diverse mix of cultures makes this spectacle unique. The show has movement and presents different facets of contemporary jazz. Their original compositions are a testimony of the dynamic structure of jazz. The special guest from Senegal, Mr. Abdou Mboup adds authenticity to the "ancestral" Latin American culture, in which African roots are evident and embraced.

The show mixes traditional jazz beats, unique world sounds and rich Caribbean rhythms, creating an exquisite experience. It goes a step beyond the limits of the music we call Latin Jazz and pleases even the most jaded audiences.

**Musicians:**

1. William Cepeda – Trombone, Shells, Percussion & vocals– From Puerto Rico
2. Uli Geissendoerfer- Piano & Synthesizer --From Germany
3. Pedro Giraud—Bass— From Argentina
4. Andrés Patrick Forero- Drums - From Colombia
5. Mike Webster- Saxophone & Flute --From Canada

Special Guest:

6. Abdou Mboup- Kora, Talking Drums, Percussion, Vocals--From Senegal, Africa

The cost of the show of the INTERNATIONAL QUINTET and their special guest is as follows:

The amount of \$4,000.00 of U.S.A money (for one set of seventy five Minutes).

This fee does not include: transportation, hotel, per diem, visa fees, etc.

For booking or for questions or concerns please contact Mr. William Cepeda's Management and Public Relations office. Contact information is as follows:

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Biografias de los Miembros del

INTERNATIONAL QUINTET BIO & SPECIAL GUEST

ANDRES PATRICK FORERO

DRUMMER, PERCUSSIONIST, COMPOSER

A 2002 GRAMMY Nominee, FORERO is considered one of the best “cross over” drummers making him an A list call drummer.

Artists he has performed with Paquito D’ Rivera, William Cepeda, Byron Stripling, Jon Faddis, Danilo Perez, Ron Carter, Claudio Roditi, Bill Cosby.

Recordings: William Cepeda Branching Out 2000, William Cepeda Live at the Heineken Jazz Festival 2000-2003, William Cepeda Live at the Montreaux Jazz Festival, William Cepeda Quartet 2001, Hernan Romero 2001, Alberto Franco 1998, Hector Martignon.

## What People Are Saying:

“As a leader, composer and virtuoso percussionist, Andres Patrick Forero is one of the young musicians that I know will make history in the new millenium!!!!!!”—Max Roach

“Andres is bridging the gap between latin and jazz druming. He will be an icon and a pioneering force in the future”-Horacio “El Negro” Hernandez

“Andres is one of the most talented and versatile young drummers I’ve ever player with.” Paquito D’ Rivera

## **William Cepeda**

### **Biography**

**WILLIAM CEPEDA – JAZZ ARTIST-INNOVATOR, COMPOSER, TROMBONE, CONCH SHELLS**

Known as a cultural icon of Puerto Rico, Grammy-nominated artist and composer William Cepeda revolutionized the field of Latin music in 1992 with his introduction of Afro-Rican Jazz, an innovative blend of world music, progressive jazz and traditional Afro-Puerto Rican roots and folk music and dance.

His ensemble has toured all over the world, performing in jazz festivals such as Montreux, NorthSea and Tabarka, as well as in performing arts venues and clubs.

Born and raised in Loiza, the heart of “little Africa” in Puerto Rico, William Cepeda’s artistic excellence, authenticity and advocacy for rigorous research and comprehensive documentation of Puerto Rican music, dance and culture have earned him multiple awards, grants and recognition from the Institute of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture, Meet The Composers, the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Music Fund at Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, American Composers Orchestra.

A protégé of Dizzie Gillespie, William Cepeda was a member of his United Nation Orchestra, and Cepeda’s musical influences include artists like Miriam Makeba and Lester Bowie.

In addition to world music and jazz, William Cepeda's oeuvre includes contemporary classical music with his introduction of Bomba Sinfonica, a full-length orchestral work for symphony, opera, choir and soloists.

Always fresh and exciting, The INTERNATIONAL QUINTET never ceases to surprise and delight with William Cepeda's unusual combinations, mixing new and different literary & musical artforms with traditional small jazz ensemble instrumentation.

### **Mike Webster—Saxophone & Flute**

Saxophonist Mike Webster has played with Kenny Wheeler, Don Thompson, Hugh Fraser and the Ron Collier Jazz Orchestra, and was recently featured on Garry Dial's latest CD, a jazz interpretation of national anthems, due for release in 2004.

A native of Ottawa, Canada, Mike graduated from the University of Toronto's jazz performance program in 1999, where he studied with saxophonists Mike Murley and Kirk MacDonald, and has been featured in the Downtown Jazz Festival (Toronto), the Beaches Jazz Festival and the Ottawa International Jazz Festival. Mike appears regularly with the National Arts Centre Orchestra (Ottawa) as an orchestral saxophonist, and has been a featured soloist in this capacity with John Pizzarelli and Barbara Cooke.

Also active as a composer/arranger, Mike was commissioned by the University of Toronto in 1999 to arrange a piece for the U of T Jazz Orchestra. His version of Gordon Webster's "Zwischen den Bäumen" (Between the Trees) appears on the band's second CD, "Off the Cuff: The Music of Jim McNeely". Another of his arrangements, Kenny Barron's "Voyage", appears on the Jazz Orchestra's debut CD entitled "Think Nice Thoughts".

Since May 2003 Mike has been working with Puerto Rican bassist John Benitez, co-writing material for John's upcoming CD. Several of these collaborative works, including "Psalm", "Bomba Lyrica", and "Yagrumo" were premiered at the Blue Note and the Jazz Gallery, both in New York City.

Mike is currently earning his Masters degree in jazz composition at the Manhattan School of Music, where he studies with composition with Michael Abene, and saxophone with Dick Oatts.

For more information, or to hear some of Mike Webster's music, please visit

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## **Pedro Giraudo – Bass**

Originally from Cordoba Argentina, Pedro Giraudo moved to New York City in 1996. Since then he has become an in-demand bass player playing in a great variety of musical projects in the city. He has performed professionally

with Bobby Sanabria, Pablo Ziegler, Eternal Tango, William Cepeda, Manny Duran, Guillermo Klein, Mo'Guajiro and Marco Granados, and recorded with

Jose Halac, Francesca Ancarola, Fernando Otero's X-Tango, The Art Department, Jose Conde, and Jess Jurkovic. Pedro Giraudo has participated in various Jazz and Music Festivals throughout the United States, Asia and Latin America. He holds a Bachelor in Performance diploma from Manhattan

School of Music where he was a scholarship recipient and a Masters in performance from City University of New York where he studied with Prof. Ron Carter. Pedro Giraudo also recorded two CDs with his own big band for which he composes and arranges.

## **Uli Geissendoerfer - PIANO/Synth**

Pianist, composer and arranger, Uli Geissendoerfer, is a native of Munich who lives in the U.S. since 1987. His abilities and influences are as diverse as the artists with whom he has performed and/or studied: Chucho Valdes, Slide Hampton, Tito Puente, Giovanni Hidalgo, Blood Sweat & Tears, Leslie Uggams, Cirque du Soleil and Ute Lemper to name a few. His experience as accompanist encompasses opera, ballet, musical theater, classical recitals and the occasional elephant.

A budding film composer, he also tours and records with and William Cepeda with a Latin Grammy nomination for their last work. From 1987-92 Uli studied classical Piano, Jazz and Theory at the University of North Texas. 'In my current Trio I am blending Latin a Blues with more modern styles like drum & bass. I focus on an organic sound." Other endeavors include being teacher and workshop leader at the Afrocubanismo! '96 in Banff, Alberta, Canada, together with Chucho Valdés, accompanist for the Connecticut Opera Express, the Hartford Ballet, and German instructor at the Universities Of Hartford and North Texas. Two albums will be released in Europe in March 3The Extension2 and 3Transformation2 on the Caramella Oro Label.

The Extension is Uli's homage to the great Latin pianists such as Chucho Valdés, Eliane Elias, Michel Camilo and Jorge Dalto. It features all original compositions and arrangements in a variety of styles and settings. From solo to trio to quintet and nonet some of New York's finest Latin and Jazz musicians play their heart out and it is at the moment available at [www.cdbaby.com/uli](http://www.cdbaby.com/uli). 3Transformation2 is an improvised piano solo CD dealing with events of September 11.

## **ABDOU MBOUP**

**PECUSSION / KORA,Composer,Xalam**

### **BIOGRAPHY**

Abdou Mboup was born in the small town of Kebemer, Senegal to a family of oral historians and musicians. Having studied traditional drumming under the tutelage of

his family, Abdou soon became a key figure in the development of the Mbalax style (Senegalese dance music). In fact in the early 1970s, he was the first musician to incorporate various traditional instruments into Senegalese popular music. A few years later, he joined the renowned Dakar based group Xalam, which he toured Europe and

Africa under the patronage of south African trumpeter, Hugh Masekela.

By the 1980s, Abdou was living and working in Paris, There he attracted the attention of Jon Hassell, with whom he recorded and performed at the 1982 Womad festival in London, England. Soon thereafter, he became the percussionist of Eddy Louiss's band with whom he toured and recorded for the next ten years. Concurrently, Abdou taught percussion at Loisirs et Culture music school in France and founded the jazz fusion band Sixun.

In the years to come, Abdou's career has only expanded. He has toured and recorded in Africa, Europe, America, Southeastern Asia, Japan, Nepal and India. From the 1990s until now, Abdou has written original composition for Jean Luc Ponty, Pharoah Sanders and Randy Weston. As a player, he has collaborated with Manu Dibango, Michel Petrucciani, Nina Simone, Toots Thielemans, Jon Lurie, Africa Bambata, Chico Freeman, Craig Harris, David Murray big band, Joe Zawinul Syndicate, Bob Stewart, Joe Chambers, Buster Williams, Harry Belafonte, George Cables, Ron Carter, Steve Turre, Jon Faddis, Billy Higgins, Tom Tom Club, Ronny Jordan Abdou Mboup currently teaches at the New School University, NY and lives in Union City, NJ. He is the leader of his own band WAAKAW, meaning "country boys" in his native Wolof.

## RECORDINGS

- Abdou Mboup and Waakaw "Sandang"
- Abdou Mboup and Waakaw "Blessing"
- Eddy Louiss "Sang Mele, Multicolor feeling, Multicolor Feeling Fanfare"
- Talking Heads "Naked"
- Simple Minds "Street Fighting Years"
- Didier Lockwood "1-2-3-4"
- Salif Keita "Soro"
- Michel Petrucciani "Live"
- Seigon Ono " Comme des Garcons"
- Jean Luc Ponty "Chocola, No Absolute Time"
- Patato Valdes "African Crossroads" (Grammy nominee 1997)
- Pharoah Sanders "Save Our Children"
- Winard Harper "Winard"-
- Tom Tom Club "No Talking, Just Head, The Good, The Bad and the Funky"
- Steve Turre "One 4 J"-Red Hot " Tribute