Danilo Perez & Bohuslän Big Band: LUMEN

Album Release 25 October 2024





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# PCD343

*Bohuslän Big Band and Danilo Pérez collaborate on a new and unique album.*

**Danilo Pérez and Swedish jazz orchestra, Bohuslän Big Band, release a record where Pan-American rhythms meet the Nordic big band sound. The album, characterized by improvisation and playfulness, is evidence of music's power to unite cultures.**

The new album is the result of a collaborative effort marked by openness, a spirit of experimentation, and mutual respect. The music, of which the majority is composed by Danilo Pérez, has its roots in Pan-American rhythms and grooves and is as majestic as it is playful with its elements of both improvisation and free flowing melodies. With song titles like "Galactic Panama" and "Sunburn & Mosquito," Danilo's roots are never far away and permeates in the feeling of the music.

"The album is a milestone in my career," says Pérez. "It symbolizes the power of music to bring cultures together and create shared experiences of beauty and harmony. The project is also special because it was carried out during the COVID-19 pandemic. Its release stands as a testament to the commitment and effort of everyone involved in bringing this Global Jazz vision to life.”

The album brims with joyful spirit. The freely flowing improvisation between Danilo Pérez's piano and Joakim Rolandsson's soprano saxophone on "Lumen," or the beautiful flugelhorn solo by Staffan Svensson on "Across the Crystal Sea," and especially the last two minutes of "Sunburn & Mosquito," are all examples of a musical encounter beyond the ordinary.

Together with Bohuslän Big Band, Danilo carries on the rich tradition of Panamanian jazz music, from pioneering musicians like Luis Russell and Sonny White to Eric Dolphy and Billy Cobham, blending it with the Nordic touch that characterizes Bohuslän Big Band.

"It has been an honor for us to be emersed in Danilo's boundless energy, musical integrity, and creative vision," says Eric Brandström Arellano, orchestra manager for Bohuslän Big Band. "He has truly created an inclusive and exploratory atmosphere in this project. This has opened the door for the musicians to delve deep into the intricacies for the music and embrace his artistic vision."

In 2019, Panamanian-born world pianist Danilo Pérez initiated a collaboration with Bohuslän Big Band in his role as Artist in Residence at Vara Concert Hall. In addition to touring, workshops, and work with the youth big band Next Generation Big Band, they also recorded Pérez's music in new big band arrangements, now released.

The album will be released on October 25th, with two single releases in August and September respectively.

**About Danilo Pérez:**

Grammy Award-winning pianist-composer and educator Danilo Pérez is recognized globally as a Jazz Visionary and Social Activist. With Jazz as the anchoring foundation, his music is a blend of Panamanian roots, Latin American folk music, West African rhythms, and European impressionism—promoting music as a borderless and multidimensional bridge between all people.

Born in Panama in 1965, Pérez's musical journey began early, influenced by his father's teachings on interconnected education. His talent was evident when he attended Berklee College of Music in 1985, and by 1989, he had become the youngest member of Dizzy Gillespie's United Nations Orchestra, a testament to his prodigious talent and rapid rise in the music industry.

Since 1993, he has been recording and touring with his own groups, receiving critical acclaim, awards, and loyal fans worldwide.

In 2001, Perez joined Wayne Shorter's Quartet to form one of the most innovative and influential bands of the XXI century.

His artistry and contributions have been recognized with numerous prestigious awards, including the 2021 Doris Duke Artist Award, the 2018 USA Fellowship, and the 2009 Smithsonian Legacy Award. As a composer, he has been commissioned by renowned institutions such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Banff Centre, and the Chicago and Detroit Jazz Festival, further solidifying his influence and recognition in the music world.

Pérez has worked as a music educator in the U.S. and worldwide for more than 25 years and has served as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, receiving many awards for his social work in Latin America.

Currently, he serves as a UNESCO Artist for Peace, Panama's Cultural Ambassador, and the Founder and Artistic Director of the Panama Jazz Festival and the Berklee Global Jazz Institute.

**About Bohuslän Big Band:**

Bohuslän Big Band is a Swedish jazz orchestra that upholds and challenges the big band genre. Fearless and exploratory, they engage in collaborations with breadth and great variation. Over the years, they have performed with international jazz giants such as Gregory Porter, Joe Lovano, John Beasley, Vince Mendoza, Maria Schneider, and Nils Landgren. Since 2004, Bohuslän Big Band has been part of Vara Concert Hall.

**Album Title:**

“Lumen”

Danilo Pérez & Bohuslän Big Band

**Track List:**

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**Credits:**

All songs composed by Danilo Pérez / Pueblo Nuevo Perez Music (BMI), Modern Works Music Publishing.

Except “Irremediablemente Solo” composed by Avelino Muñoz © Editorial Mexicana De Musica International - Peer International Corp and “Across the Crystal Sea” composed by Claus Ogerman, Glamorous Music (ASCAP/GEMA).

*Galactic Panama*, *Irremediablemente Solo arranged by* Bill Dobbins*.*

*Across the Crystal Sea,* Claus Ogerman arrangement adapted by Bill Dobbins.

*Expeditions* (2nd Movement of Panamania Suite commissioned by Lula Music and Arts Centre (LMAC) premiered at Toronto 2015 Pan Am Games), composed and arranged by Danilo Pérez and adapted by Niclas Rydh.

Recorded at Nilento Studio, Gothenburg,

Sweden on September 26-27, 2021

With Support from Region Västra Götaland, Sweden.

Recording engineer: Lars Nilsson

Assistant engineer: Michael Dahlvid & Joar Hallgren

Coordinator: Jenny Nilsson

Mixed and mastered by Lars Nilsson at Nilento Studio

[www.nilento.se](https://url11.mailanyone.net/scanner?m=1rY0uq-0004cz-4B&d=4%7Cmail%2F90%2F1707385200%2F1rY0uq-0004cz-4B%7Cin11g%7C57e1b682%7C13543352%7C11915348%7C65C4A1E4C190A965DB2A79FB35E8DE6B&o=wphtw%2F%2Fwt%3Aol.nsnt.ie%2Fe&s=UNw6KnhnELjvwTMcZ-Ow2ma1YOg)

Production Assistant, Additional Recording and Editing: David Rosenspire at Cholo Music Recording.

Piano Tuning: Fred Mudge

Produced by Danilo Pérez & Lars Nilsson

Executive Producer: Bohuslän Big Band and Vara Concert Hall

Illustration: Moa Schulman

Layout: Kristin Nyberg

Danilo Pérez Management: Scott Southard

Danilo Pérez Booking: IMN – International Music Network, [info@imnworld.com](mailto:info@imnworld.com).

Danilo Pérez endorses Yamaha Pianos and Schertler piano pickups.

Danilo Pérez appears courtesy of Mack Avenue Music Group.

**Lineup:**

Danilo Pérez, piano & fender rhodes

Joakim Rolandsson, alto saxophone & woodwinds,Martin Bjurek Svanström, alto saxophone & woodwinds

Linus Lindblom, tenor saxophone & woodwinds,Mikael Karlsson, tenor saxophone & woodwinds

Alberto Pinton, baritone saxophone & woodwinds

Lennart Grahn, trumpet & flugelhorn,Samuel Olsson, trumpet & flugelhorn,Staffan Svensson, trumpet & flugelhorn,Jan Eliasson, trumpet & flugelhorn

Niclas Rydh, trombone,Christer Olofsson, trombone,Gustaf Wiklund, trombone,Ingrid Utne, bass trombone

Olli Rantala, double bass,Lisbeth Diers, percussion,Göran Kroon, drums

**Distribution *Naxos Sweden* / *Prophone Records***

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