



## JORGE SYLVESTER

Alto Saxophonist, Composer, Conductor, Arranger,  
Bandleader, Producer, Educator

Born in Colon, Panama Jorge attended the Panama Conservatory of Music and the University of Panama. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Music from the State University of New York College at New Paltz in 1981. A unique innovator and impressive composer and arranger in the idiom of creative music, his sound is reminiscent of Eric Dolphy and Ornette Coleman. Jorge has remained on the cutting edge of the creative NY Jazz scene since his arrival from Spain in 1980. Sylvester's blend of Afro-Caribbean rhythms with new music is what gives him his distinguished voice.

**EARLY LIFE:** Beginning his professional career at age 14, Jorge was leading his own Caribbean dance band, writing his own arrangements and compositions. He studied privately with renowned Panamanian jazz saxophonist, Euclides Hall. Upon the recommendation of his professor, Efrain Castro, Jorge became a regular musician in the great Panamanian pianist Victor Boa's band. Heading for Europe in his early twenties, Sylvester spent ten years touring and recording with his ensembles and freelancing throughout Europe.

**ADDITIONAL STUDIES:** Mr. Sylvester studied advanced harmony with Argentinean pianist, composer Luis Vecchio in Las Palmas de Gran Canarias, Spain whose Quartet he also then recorded with. Upon his arrival to New York in 1980, he studied with Dave Holland, Oliver Lake, Steve Lacy, Ramsey Ameen, Marion Brown and many others at vibraphonist Karl Berger's Creative Music Studio in Woodstock.

**TOURS/RESIDENCIES/NOTABLE CONCERTS:** Europe with Joe Bowie's Defunkt Big Band; Europe and Israel with the World Saxophone Quartet; Danilo Perez's Panamanian Jazz All Stars for the Panama Jazz Festival; Podgorica, Montenegro Jazz Appreciation Month Series with A Small Dream in Red and appeared on the television show, Good Morning Montenegro; concert and recording in Linz, Austria at the Brucknerhaus Concert Hall with the ACE Collective; Vision Festival X, NYC with ConceptualMotion Orchestra; the Baha'i Center, Dizzy Gillespie Theater,

NYC yearly residency from 2010 to present with CMO; and, monthly residency (both performances and workshops) at the El Taller Latino Americano Arts Center, NYC with CMO featuring guest artists since 2018. Jorge Sylvester ACE Collective recently performed in concert at Clements Place, a jazz venue in association with Rutgers University in Newark, NJ.

**COMPOSER, ARRANGER, CONDUCTOR:** Mr. Sylvester composes, arranges, and conducts new music for his various groups and his expansive projects; performs frequently, teaches privately, for New York Edge, and conducts workshops throughout New York and elsewhere in the United States teaching his unique approach to composition using Afro-Caribbean rhythms.

### DISCOGRAPHY

- Mayhem at Large* (RedZen Records, 2021);
- blesSINGS* (RedZen Records, 2016);
- In the Language of Dreams* (RedZen Records, 2013);
- Spirit Driven* (RedZen Records 2010 rel. 2013);
- Toward the Hill Of Joy Featuring Nora McCarthy* (Blue Unity Music, 2011);
- Playground* (Jazzaway Records, 2005);
- A Small Dream in Red* (Sundown Jazz Records, CSU, 2003);
- The Mass* (Palmetto Records, 2000);
- Another Side* (CIMP Records, 2000);
- Magic Night* (Jazz Stop Records, Madrid Spain, 1989);
- Viriato Blue* (Jazz Stop Records, Madrid Spain, 1983.);
- The Blue Oneness of Dreams* (Mouth Almighty Records, 1997) with Poet Sekou Sundiata;
- The Essence All Stars* featuring Doug Carne, Idris Muhammed and Josh Roseman (Hip Hop Records, 1997.)