

COMPOSING A DYNAMIC NEW WORK: 'THE CREATION'

In a rich career spanning sixty years, **Chucho Valdés** has pushed boundaries in pursuit of new expressions in Afro-Cuban music. His influence in the genre is immeasurable, his work establishing the standard by which younger generations set out to create their own. Coming in 2021, Chucho will premiere his most ambitious work yet, **The Creation**. This concert opera is a dramatic recounting of the arrival of Yoruban culture to the Caribbean.

Ancient West African rhythms from an ensemble of master percussionists hold the tales of a people who transform struggle into celebration songs with the voices of ancestry, in a Creole choir. This tale of redemption and personal freedom resonates modern in waves of colorful saxes & horns from a 14-piece jazz big band, all the while around and within is the soaring pianism of Maestro Valdés.

The premiere of *The Creation* will arrive in 2021 to coincide with Chucho's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. A worldwide birthday celebration tour is being planned which will include major stages at festivals and cultural arts series.

Chucho Valdés, composer & pianist

Hllario Duran - arranger

**Big Band** 

5 Trumpets 4 Trombones 5 Saxes Chucho Valdés Piano Keyboards / Music Director Bass Drums

## **Percussion**

1 Conga 3 Batá

## Choir

4 Afro-Cuban voices

This project is a co-production of AME, LLC and International Music Network in association with Planet'A by Caramba (France).

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