



**COMPOSING A DYNAMIC NEW WORK: 'THE CREATION'
WORLDWIDE 80TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION TOUR**

"One of the most influential figures in Afro-Cuban jazz"
BILLBOARD

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 oratorio 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 35-minute piece will be paired with lively repertoire from throughout Chucho's lengthy career.

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

[WEBSITE](#) // [FACEBOOK](#) // [VIDEO](#) // [AUDIO](#)

Chucho Valdes, composer & pianist
Hilario Durán, arranger

Big Band + Conductor

5 Trumpets
4 Trombones
5 Saxes
Piano
Bass
Drums

Percussion

1 Conga
3 Batá

Choir

6 Afro-Cuban voices

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