

AFRO BOP ALLIANCE

Founded and led by JOE McCARTHY



Latin Grammy Award winning Afro Bop Alliance (ABA) is an Afro-Cuban jazz ensemble based in Washington, DC, who received Latin Jazz Album of the Year at the 9th Annual Latin Grammy Awards in 2008 for the recording *Afro Bop Alliance, featuring Dave Samuels* and also received a Grammy nomination in the same category that year.

ABA was founded, and is led by drummer Joe McCarthy. The band is comprised of first call jazz and Latin jazz players from the Washington, DC and NYC, and includes Luis Hernandez (tenor saxophone), Tim Stanley (trumpet), Vince Norman (alto saxophone), Victor Provost (steel pan), Harry Appelman (piano), Tom Baldwin (bass) and Roberto Quintero (percussion). Collectively they perform with some of the greatest names in the business including Paquito D'Rivera, Richard Bona, The Smithsonian Masterworks Jazz Orchestra, US Navy Commodores Jazz Ensemble and Dave Samuels.

The music of ABA has long been inspired by the great be-bop tradition, married to the rich rhythmic stylings of Afro-Caribbean music and is composed by the members of the band and arranged by Vince Norman. In addition to their Latin Grammy for *Afro Bop Alliance, featuring Dave Samuels*, Afro Bop Alliance has recorded 4 CD's, *Encarnation*, *Camino Nuevo*, *Una Mas*, and their most recent recording (Zoho) *Angel Eyes*. Jazz Times says about *Angel Eyes*, "This Washington, DC-based group, led by drummer Joe McCarthy, and already notable for winning a 2008 Latin Grammy, may be in line for additional awards with this album."

Jazz writer Bill Milkowski sums up the ensemble in a few sentences in the liner notes for *Angel Eyes*: "Groove is the universal language. Whether it's a Texas or Chicago blues shuffle, James Brown's goodfoot funk, a driving guaguanco, percolating rumba, surging samba, infectious second line or insinuating cha-cha-cha, everyone knows what to do when they feel the rhythm in their bones. Indeed, groove is at the heart of this potent Afro Bop Alliance release, the group's debut on the ZOHO label. While providing exciting Latin-tinged grooves that are tailor-made for dancers, the members of this Washington, DC-based, Art Blakey & the Jazz Messengers-inspired octet keep one

foot solidly in the straight ahead jazz camp with their scintillating improvisations and tight three-horn frontline on Angel Eyes.”

“Listening to the exquisite playing and arranging of the Afro Bop Alliance is always an experience. The mix they’ve achieved is so balanced that you never feel that the music is too Latin to be jazz or too jazzy to be Latin.” **Paquito D’Rivera**

“...Forthright and hard-hitting with a certain swagger” *Jazz Times*

“...Inventive Afro-Cuban Jazz” *DownBeat*

"The band cooks, no question about it..." All Music Guide

“The ‘Bop’ in the band’s name can be best described as hard-bop in the Jazz Messenger’s vein – forthright and hard-hitting with a certain swagger.” *Jazz Times*

“Known for their percolating percussion as well as dipping into straight ahead jazz, this Washington D.C. based octet lets the rumba rumble, the cha-cha churn and the samba simmer...” *All About Jazz*

“...masterful in their use of the color palette this collection of musicians is capable of.”
Rochester City Newspaper

"This is an awesome ensemble on all counts: writing, soloing, and swinging!!"
Ed Soph, Jazz Drumming Legend, Professor of Music, University of North Texas

AUDIO:

For samples from their most recent release, **Angel Eyes** please go to <http://joemccarthymusic.com/> and listen to *The Jinx*, *Three For Ju Ju*, and *Homenaje*.

***For More Information or to Book a concert contact LVanHart Artist Productions
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