



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[LINK TO HIGH RESOLUTION ARTIST PHOTOS](#)

Press contacts:

HAVANA JAM

John MacElwee - 718-518-6539, jmacelwee@hostos.cuny.edu

Jim Eigo 845-986-1677, jim@jazzpromoservices.com

HABANA 500: A New York Salute to a Timeless City

Soldanela Rivera: (718) 518-4410 Habana500@hostos.cuny.edu

<http://www.hostos.cuny.edu/Home-Page-Content/Events/LA-HABANA-500-A-New-York-Salute>

HOSTOS CENTER PRESENTS HAVANA JAM

An All-Star Musical Salute, led by Bassist / Violinist / Composer Yunior Terry
Celebrates 500th Anniversary of the Founding of Havana

Performance Featuring

Yunior Terry and Son de Altura featuring David Oquendo
with special guests Eddy Zervigón, Gema and Adonis González

Friday, November 15, 7:30 PM

October 21, 2019 (Bronx, NY) – The Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture presents Havana Jam honoring the 500th Anniversary of the Founding of Havana with bassist / violinist / composer Yunior Terry leading his septet Son de Altura featuring vocalist David Oquendo and special guests – Cuban song stylist Gema, Charanga flutist Eddy Zervigón, of Orquesta Broadway, and classical pianist Adonis González, on Friday, November 15, 7:30 PM in the Repertory Theater at Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street in the Bronx. The concert is the closing event of “LA HABANA 500: A New York Salute to a Timeless City,” a series of events (Nov. 12 through 15), including seminars and walking tours presented by three CUNY Colleges – Hostos Community College, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and The City College of New York— in collaboration with the School of Visual Arts. Tickets for “Havana Jam” are \$25, \$20 for Seniors and \$5 for students and are available at www.hostoscenter.org or by calling (718) 518-4455. Box office window hours are Monday through Friday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and two hours prior to performance. For event information on “LA HABANA 500: A New York Salute to a Timeless City,” call (718)- 518-4410.

“We are going to celebrate Havana’s 500 years with a mosaic of musical traditions that will take the audience on a journey through time,” says Yunior Terry. “Havana has been a city of inspiration for countless artists throughout history, and deserves a musical program that captures the glorious past and the sounds of today.

From 1519, when Havana was founded, many cultural exchanges - from Indigenous, Spanish, African, Haitian, Chinese, other European, to American - have contributed to crystalizing the sounds of Cuba."

Terry continues, "I will be performing with my band Son de Altura, a project that pays tribute to the vast legacy of popular Cuban dance music. Among the all-star line-up of the band is the esteemed vocalist David Oquendo, renowned for his collaborations with some of the legends of Cuban music including Elena Burke and Chico O'Farrill. In addition, we will feature three guest artists who will represent historically significant Cuban musical genres."

"Classical music is very important to our culture which is why we are having the great Cuban classical pianist Adonis González perform Ignacio Cervantes (1847 - 1905), Cuba's leading composer of the 19th century, as well as Ernesto Lecuona (1895-1963), who combined classical influences with folk elements, much like Gershwin."

"Stunning contemporary vocalist, Gema Corredera, will be performing a selection of Boleros from the 1920's through to today, paying tribute to the Cuban tradition of Trovadores and the songs of love."

"Also joining Son de Altura in our tribute to popular Cuban dance music like Danzón, Son, and Cha Cha Cha, will be Eddy Zervigón, one of the greatest living Charanga flutists in the world today. Since his arrival in New York City in 1962, Zervigón has been the leader of the legendary Charanga Orquesta Broadway, and we are honored to have him join our program.

"It is going to be a wonderful concert and an important way to honor the longevity of Havana on its 500th anniversary."

Support for Hostos Center programs is provided by the Eugenio María de Hostos Community College Foundation, with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York State Council on the Arts, the Howard Gilman Foundation, New York City Councilmember Rafael Salamanca, and the Office of New York State Assemblyman José Rivera.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Born in Camagüey, Cuba, bassist, violinist, and composer **Yunior Terry** is part of one of Cuba's most gifted musical families. Following his father and two older brothers Yosvany and Yoel, he began his musical training at the age of seven. He grew up surrounded by the music of Afro-Cuban religious traditions and learned to play the chekeré from his father Don Pancho, the undisputed master of the instrument. Yunior graduated from the prestigious National School of Art (ENA) with a double major in bass and violin. While in Cuba, he played violin with the Cuban National Symphony and bass with folkloric and Latin jazz groups. He holds a B.A. from CalArts, and an M.A. from Rutgers University. Since moving to NYC, he has deepened his understanding of Jazz traditions through performing with Steve Coleman, Jerry González and the Fort Apache Band, Jeff "Tain" Watts, Dafnis Prieto, Eddie Palmieri, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Michele Rosewoman, Andy Narell, Ravi Coltrane, and Yosvany Terry. He was part of the Latin Jazz All Stars project with Dave Valentín, Giovanni Hidalgo, Hilton Ruíz, Steve Turre, and Mario Rivera. With his septet, Son de Altura, he released his debut CD *Mi Bajo Danzón* in 2012.

Hostos Center presents "Havana Jam" page 3

At age seven, **Gema Corredera** debuted at the Hubert de Blanck Theater in Havana, as part of the Children's Musical Workshop of Teatro Estudio. She graduated from Cuba's Escuela Nacional de Música (the National School of Music) having studied classical guitar. Soon after, she entered the Instituto Superior de Arte de La Habana (ISA), where she focused on contemporary Cuban composition, folkloric Cuban music (especially

rumba) and classical composers. As a young adult, she met composer and guitarist Pavel Urquiza, with whom she formed the duo Gema y Pavel. In 1992 they both moved to Madrid, where they were able to create a new style of Cuban urban music influenced as much by The Beatles as by la Nueva Trova, Chick Corea, the Brazilian Caetano Veloso and the Argentinian Fito Páez. In 2011, after many years as a duo and with a dozen record productions, Gema y Pavel decided to focus on their solo projects, including Gema's *Derramando Luz*, which features Yosvany Terry. In *Feeling Marta*, she celebrates the musical work of the renown Cuban composer Marta Valdés, which won her a 2016 Cubadisco prize.

Adonis González graduated with honors from the Superior Institute of Art of Havana, holds a Master of Music Degree from the University of Southern Mississippi, and a Doctoral Degree in Piano Performance from Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University. He also took courses in Orchestral Conducting at The Juilliard School in New York City and is an accomplished composer. His Symphonic Poem for Piano and Orchestra 'Cimarrón' was premiered by the National Symphony of Costa Rica. He is currently an Artist in Residence of the Cuban Artist Fund in New York and a Professor of Music at Alabama State University. González won the First Prize of the Teresa Carreño International Piano Competition in Caracas, Venezuela and the First Prize of the most important Cuban piano competition organized by the National Association of Cuban Writers and Artists (UNEAC). He is also a laureate of the International Piano Competition of the Principality of Andorra and the Ernesto Lecuona International Competition of Havana. He was nominated for a Latin Grammy for Best Classical Album for his solo debut *Adiós a Cuba*.

Eddy Zervigón, the flautist and founding leader of Orquesta Broadway plays a 5 keyed wooden flute commonly referred to as the 'French flute.' He was born in Güines, a Cuban town located nearly 30 miles southeast of Havana. In 1962, he and his brothers left Cuba for Miami where they spent a few months before coming to New York. Upon his arrival in the city, Zervigón worked in the bands of Lou Pérez, Johnny Pacheco, Alfredo Valdés Sr. and Arsenio Rodríguez. He has been featured in countless recordings by a very diverse group of artists. Zervigón was also featured for many years as a guest soloist with Manny Oquendo's Libre and pianist Eddie Palmieri's group. In 1964, he founded his own Charanga group, Orquesta Broadway, which has made many recordings and toured all over the world. Orquesta Broadway celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2002 with a well-received recording of the same name and its 50th anniversary, in 2012, with a spectacular concert at Lincoln Center Out of Doors.

David Oquendo was born in Havana, Cuba in 1958. Self-taught, Oquendo absorbed the essence of the Afro-Cuban rhythmical vernacular in the poorest neighborhoods of his native city. At 12 years of age, David started playing guitar and singing in several "Rock" bands around Cuba. Even though he was not conservatory trained, his passion for music, his discipline and self-criticism, took him to the point where eventually he was considered one of the best guitar accompanist in Cuba. As accompanist, Oquendo has worked with artists of the caliber of: Moraima Secada, Elena Burke, Lucho Gatica, Meme Solis, Maggie Carles, Lenny Andrade, and many others. Oquendo was musical director and producer for "The Cuban Rumba All Stars," a first time,

historical collaboration by members of Cuba's Rumba groups: Los Muñequitos de Matanzas, Yoruba Andabo, Clave y Guaguanco, Obba ILU, Coro Folklórico Cubano, Raices Profundas y Grupo Tata Güines. Oquendo has a Grammy Award for the album *Tropicana Nights* with Paquito D'Rivera, a Grammy Nomination for *Bebop Timba* with Raphael Cruz and three Latin Grammy Nominations for *Raices Habaneras*, *50 Years of Mambo* and *Paquito D'Rivera Presents Las Hermanas Márquez*.

About the Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture

An integral part of Hostos Community College / CUNY since 1982, the Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture, which includes two state-of-the-art theaters of 900 and 367 seats each, a black box experimental theater, and a museum-grade art gallery, is a resource for students and faculty in addition to serving the cultural needs of South Bronx residents and neighboring communities. Recognized nationally as a leader in Latin and African-based programming, the Hostos Center creates performing and visual arts forums in which the diverse cultural heritages of its audiences are celebrated and cultivated. In meeting that objective, the Center is dedicated to the development of emerging artists and the creation of new work.

What: "Havana Jam" with Yunior Terry and Son de Altura featuring David Oquendo with special guests Eddy Zervigón, Gema and Adonis González

When: Friday, November 15, 7:30 PM

Where: Repertory Theater
Hostos Center for the Arts and Culture
Hostos Community College
450 Grand Concourse
Bronx, NY 10451

Pricing: \$25 (\$20 for seniors 65 and over), (\$5 Students)

Box Office: 718-518-4455

Website: www.hostoscenter.org

Ticket Window: Mon. – Fri. 1 PM to 4 PM and 2 hours prior to events.

Subway/Bus: IRT Trains 2, 4, 5 and Buses BX1, BX2, BX19 to 149th Street/Grand Concourse.