



DARWIN NOGUERA GROUP

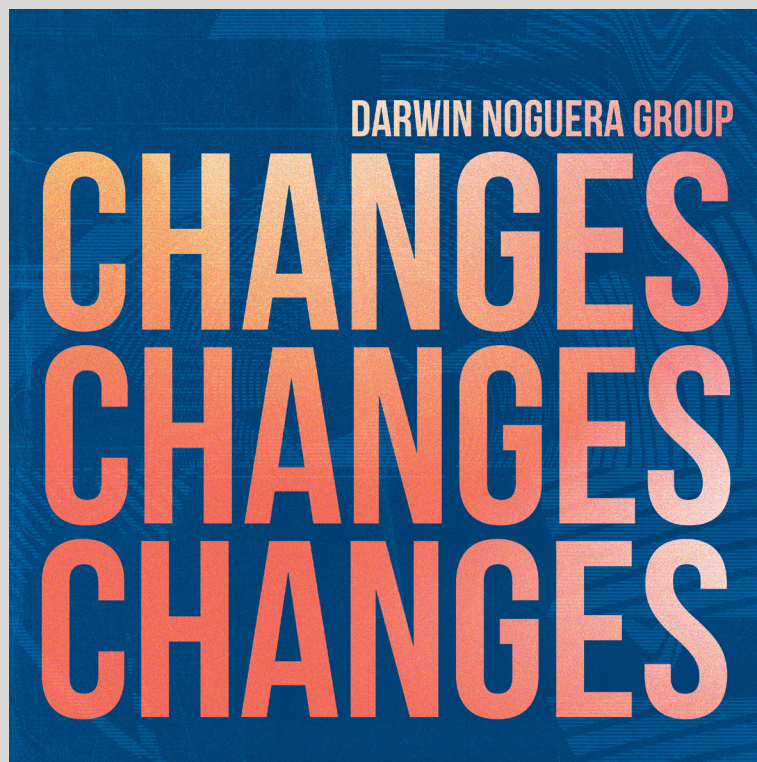
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FOR BOOKINGS:

DARWIN NOGUERA

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THE DARWIN NOGUERA GROUP

A thriving musical force, the Darwin Noguera Group, formerly known as the Chicago Afro-Latin Jazz Ensemble, was formed in 2021. The dynamic band is regarded as a promising and innovative voice in the Latin and Jazz scene, delivering an authentic Afro-Cuban Jazz experience, infused with Rap poetry. Darwin, the group's leader, uses Latin American influences to enrich his compositions, while incorporating traditional Cuban, Dominican, and American rhythms such as Timba, Rumba, Hip-hop and Modern jazz.

Curating a refreshing and original sound, the formidable band brings with itself energy-fueled, heart-pounding grooves and improvised solos. Having performed throughout the Midwest and Nicaragua, the Darwin Noguera Group has also conducted several workshops, catering to both elementary and college level students. With their debut single "Fourth Dimension", slated for release on 2.22.22, the group is sculpting a stirring listening and dance legacy in the Latin Jazz Genre.



DARWIN NOGUERA

Darwin Noguera is a Nicaragua-born Jazz pianist and composer. The artist is an emerging voice in Jazz and Latin idioms, having helmed 3 albums, commissioned works, recordings, performances and masterclasses across the United States and the world. A rising star in the new generation of pianists, Darwin debuted as a teenager with the Miami Symphony Orchestra. Harmonizing Cuban rhythms with American Jazz and Hip-hop, Darwin co-founded 'Chicago: Afro-Latin Jazz Ensemble', an acclaimed Latin jazz group which toured nationally and internationally. One of the most sought-after pianists working in jazz, Darwin has performed or recorded with Grammy Award winning artists and masters such as Paquito D'Rivera, Joel Frahm, Miguel Zenon, Giovanni Hidalgo, and others.



KEITH HARRIS

Keith Harris, better known by his artistic name Keith DA Maestro, is a dynamic songwriter and producer based in Chicago, Illinois. Having helmed production on the urban anthem "See No Evil" featuring Darius Lyles, Harris also boasts accolades such as being a stand-out artist on season 18 of The Voice. A trove of talents, Keith has several collaborative albums under his belt with his first solo release "Don't Be Mad at Me," slated to drop in 2022, along with upcoming EP "Time Lapse" which he recorded with Indie-trio Zochen.



ROCKY YERA

Rocky Yera is a celebrated Cuban-born tenor saxophonist, composer, and arranger, who marked his foray into music at the age of twelve. Rocky's debut album "Just Practice" released on May 30th, 2018, featuring his original compositions, arrangements, and use of guitar effects and instruments. Rocky continually draws influence from multi-Grammy award-winning producer, Richard Aspinwall, who also produced the new album, as well as by the music of multi-Grammy winning saxophone icon, Jeff Coffin, who is featured on one of the tracks on the album.



JOSHUA RAMOS

Joshua Ramos is a seasoned instrumentalist who was born in Chicago in 1982 to a musically active family. The talented artist first tried his hand at the bass in seventh grade under the instruction of Bass player, Margaro Torres. After attending the prestigious Northern Illinois University, Joshua immediately started playing professionally with famous pianist and student, Dan Nimmer, of Wynton Marsalis fame. Currently, the artist makes a busy career out of teaching music at various locations and performing for audiences live. Joshua has had features on television numerous times, and has had a vibrant journey with music, travelling all over the world. The artist has toured Taiwan, St Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Peru, Nicaragua, Moscow, Russia, Kitzbühel, Austria, New York and the East coast, California and much of the West coast.



JUAN PASTOR

Juan Pastor is an eclectic drummer, percussionist and composer, hailing from Lima, Peru. As a musician, Pastor draws from the deep sources of Peru's enchantingly diverse culture, history, landscapes, and mesmerizing folk music. He evokes his multifaceted musical story poignantly on his latest recording, 'El Regreso', which he unveiled in 2019. Highlighting his skills as a musical storyteller and virtuoso, Pastor currently resides in Chicago, while also traveling all around the world as a drummer and clinician, with leading acclaimed band, "Chinchano".



JAVIER QUINTANA

Javier J Quintana is a budding 19-year-old Puerto Rican percussionist who was born and raised in Chicago. The eclectic artist's passion for music began at a very young age influenced by his father, Frankie Ocasio, a renowned artist who played with Chuchito Valdes. Owing to his many magnetic talents, Javier was selected by the MacArthur Foundation to travel to Puerto Rico for a series of live performances. His experience in Puerto Rico led to him discovering the unique rhythms of 'Bomba'- a traditional folkloric genre of music native to the island. Following into his father's footsteps, Javier has been performing with distinguished musicians in Chicago, continually learning and honing his skills as a conga player.

DARWIN NOGUERA GROUP

DARWIN NOGUERA / PIANO AND COMPOSITIONS

KEITH HARRIS / POETRY & LYRICS

ROCKY YERA / TENOR SAX

JOSHUA RAMOS / ELECTRIC BASS

JUAN PASTOR / DRUMS

JAVIER QUINTANA / CONGAS



VENUE RESUME:

- Millenium Park
- Detroit Symphony Orchestra
- Jazz Showcase
- Music Hall Detroit
- Knox College
- Northeastern Illinois University
- Romolo's Chocolate Summer Concert Series
- Hothouse
- Chicago Jazz Festival
- Nicaragua International Jazz Festival
- University of Minnesota-Mankato Rootabaga Jazz Festival
- Dogwood Performing Arts Center
- Matthews Opera House & Art Center
- Hope College
- Elon University
- Jenison Center for the Performing Arts
- Indiana University

“A wonderfully and diverse repertoire of new and highly creative music.”

— REBECCA MAULEON , JAZZ TIMES MAGAZINE

“A strong recording debut.”

— HOWARD REICH, CHICAGO TRIBUNE

“A sensational Jazz recording.”

— NELSON RODRÍGUEZ, LATIN BEAT

“He shapes melodies with intelligent musicality and lush harmonic knowledge.”

— CHIP BOAZ, LATIN JAZZ CORNER

“Helping to give all this meaning, Noguera plays with passion and command during solo stints.”

— PIERRE GIROUX, JAZZHEADS

“This is a solid ensemble.”

— GREGO APPLGATE EDWARDS, CADENCE MAGAZINE

DARWIN NOGUERA GROUP TECH RIDER

THE DN GROUP REQUIRES THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT FOR PERFORMANCE:

A. Microphones

- 4 vocal mics
- 11 instrument mikes for the following:
 - 2 instrument mics for grand piano (full stick) - 2 instrument mics for congas
 - 1 instrument mic for saxophone
 - 1 instrument mic for poet
 - 3 drum set (Overhead, kick, snare)
 - 2 Congas

B. Direct inputs

- 1 direct input box for bass

C. Monitor speakers and monitor mixes

- Optimally 4 monitors and separate mixes
- Minimally 3 monitors and 2 separate mixes

D. House PA system and miscellaneous equipment

- Sound system adequate to cover venue and the band configuration - Professional lighting sufficient for the event, preferably blue wash
- A minimum of one qualified engineer to run the sound system
- No reverb or digital delays on house/monitor speakers

E. Backline equipment

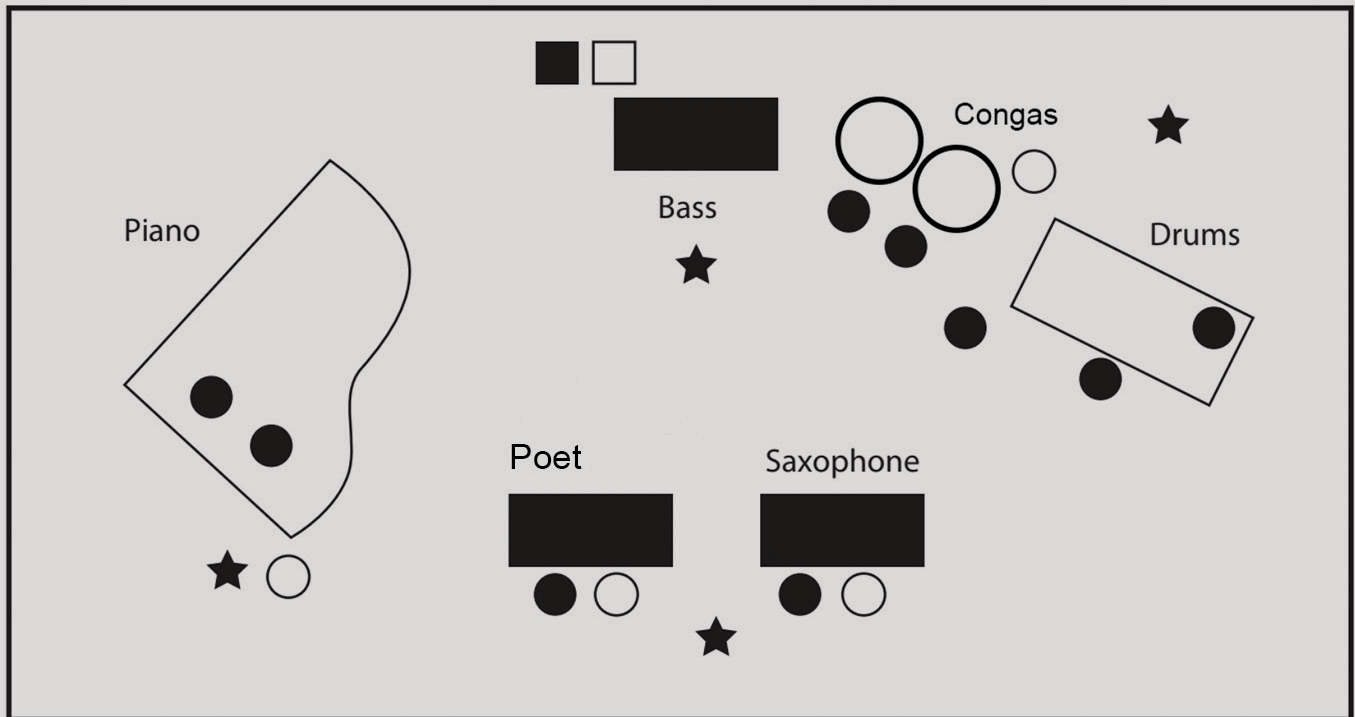
- a Steinway Grand Model D or Yamaha Grand C7 series required - must be tuned within a week prior to the performance
- if acoustic piano is not available, artist preferred keyboards are:
(keyboard should have 88 weighted keys)
 - Roland Juno DS 88
 - Roland RD64
 - Yamaha Motif ES8
 - Roland RD 700
 - Yamaha Motif ES8
- If for any reason, purchaser is unable to provide an acoustic piano, agent should be notified prior to performance.

F. Hospitality

- Artists request 2 bottles of water and 1 black face towel per musician
- Please provide water (No Aquifina, or Dasani) healthy snacks, sandwiches in the green room, with include vegetarian options

To accept this rider, please initial: Purchase _____

DARWIN NOGUERA GROUP TECH RIDER



□ D.I. box ■ Amp ★ Monitor ○ Vocal mic ● Instrumental mic

Channel - Instrument	Microphone/Mic Stand
1- Kick	Drum mic
2- Drumset, snare	SM57/Straight stand
3- Drumset, overhead	Condensor mic, boomstand
4- Bass	DI
5- Grand Piano	2 small-diaphragm omni directional mics/boom stand
6- Grand Piano	Vocal mic/Boom stand (right side)
7- Tenor Sax	horn mic/straight stand
8- Tenor Sax	vocal mic/straight stand
9- Poet/Rapper	vocal mic/straight stand
10- Congas	Overhead mic/Straight stand
11- Congas	Overhead mic/Straight stand
12- Congas	Vocal mic/Boom stand