

Alexis Cuadrado Group: A Lorca Soundscape



Alexis Cuadrado and his group perform at the 50th anniversary convention of the International Society of Bassists.

Long before terms like "1 percenters" entered our current vernacular, the great Spanish playwright and poet, Federico García Lorca, was writing in 1929 about the inequality he witnessed while in New York City. Premiéred in 2013, *A Lorca Soundscape* is Alexis Cuadrado's critically acclaimed cycle of original jazz protest songs drawn from Lorca's poetry. "Considering our current political situation, getting back to *Poet in New York* is my way of forming a protest. Even though the book was written over eighty years ago, it baffles me to see how the inequality, racism and injustice that Lorca describes are still present in our daily narrative. The characters may have changed, but the plot line is the same," says Cuadrado.

The author and literary critic Melcion Mateu elaborates in the album's liner notes: "Alexis Cuadrado is an artist in pursuit of lyricism, a lyricism that functions as a necessary contrast to the schizophrenic logic of a sick city and society; like the voice that prevails against chaos and injustice so as to make its message heard. Perhaps it's for this reason that *A Lorca Soundscape* is an album both clear and complex at once: complex like the city depicted by Lorca, by means of his accumulation of discordant images, his rhythms and sounds; and clear by means of the sheer power of his words. On Cuadrado's *A Lorca Soundscape*, the rhythms of the city-which move from swing to bolero, passing through flamenco and new music, live together with the exigency to express his message (...) And, there is always an emotion, an "ecstatic truth", to put it in the words of the filmmaker Werner Herzog, words that Cuadrado often repeats, that reveals immediately the moment in which an individual recognizes him or herself before the agitating great metropolis.

MUSIC NEW YORK

Sat, June 10, 2017

Venue

Ithaca College 953 Danby Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850

View map

Admission

Free

More information

International Society of Bassists



ALEXIS CUADRADO GROUP: A LORCA SOUNDSCAPE

- Claudia Acuña Voice
- Remy Le Boeuf Sax
- Robert Rodriguez Piano
- Mark Ferber Drums
- Alexis Cuadrado Bass, background vocals

PROGRAM

- Vuelta de paseo
- Norma y paraíso El rey de Harlem
- Asesinato (Dos voces de madrugada en Riverside Drive)
- Danza de la muerte
- La aurora
- Vals en las ramas

ABOUT ALEXIS CUADRADO

Barcelona-born and Brooklyn based Alexis Cuadrado is an award winning composer, producer, bassist and educator. His compositions show a unique voice that draws from the crossover of Jazz, Flamenco and New Music, exploring the confluence of the Spanish and American cultures. His output as a composer has peaked in recent years, premiering over a dozen commissioned works. He has published 6 albums of original work, composed multiple film scores and recently produced music for the public radio show *The New Yorker Radio Hour*, which he recorded exclusively on double bass.