

ANGELFACE RECORDS
presents


LATIN GRAMMY® NOMINATED

The Pan American Nutteracker Suite

REIMAGINED

© 2023 Angelface Records LLC. All Rights Reserved.



A group of ballerinas in white tutus performing on a stage. The ballerinas are in various poses, some with their arms raised and hands clasped. The stage floor is dark and reflective. The background is dark, making the white tutus stand out.

Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker Suite* has inspired cultures globally to re-envision their own interpretations of this timeless classic.

Although adapted to express cultural representation, few have explored the limitless possibilities of integrating a globally diverse, multi-cultural presentation.

This is the inspiration behind
The Pan American Nutcracker Suite.

TCHAIKOVSKY'S "THE NUTCRACKER SUITE"

A timeless classic...

Acclaims for The Pan American Nutcracker Suite

A TRULY TRANSPORTIVE
RECORDING, TAKING THE
FAMILIAR INTO NEW REALMS...

- Latin Grammy® Nominee, Best Arrangement for “Waltz of the Flowers” - Joe McCarthy & Vince Norman (Co-arrangers) 24th Annual Latin Grammys® ceremony on November 16th, 2023
- Reached #33 on JazzWeek Jazz Album Chart in 2022
- NACC College Jazz Top-30 at #28
- Featured in December 2022 issues of Downbeat Magazine and The New York City Jazz Record

MODERN DRUMMER MAGAZINE

Joe McCarthy's New York Afro Bop Alliance Band

The Pan American Nutcracker Suite

Angelface Records

Joe McCarthy- drums and arrangements

Samuel Torres- percussion

With a recording such as this, it's hard to decide what to talk about first. The concept? The arrangements? The drumming? The band? The recording? Well, it's ALL first rate and top shelf. Creating arrangements to take advantage of a band of first call NY jazz musicians and to creatively coax new colors out of music that has been around (and played) for over 100 years, is a very tall task. But the concept of writing Afro-Cuban big band arrangements of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite*



is ingenious. Drummer Joe McCarthy has met and exceeded those challenges with his deeply rooted drumming, his imaginative arrangements, and his uncompromising creative mission. His drumming supports, inspires, directs, and shapes the music and the band with fine tuned precision and “big ears.”

All About Jazz

Home » Jazz Articles » 2022: The Year in Jazz

Year in Review

2022: The Year In Jazz



By Ken Franckling
December 29, 2022
[Sign in](#) to view read count

TWO TWISTS ON THE NUTCRACKER: A reimagining of “The Nutcracker” based on [Duke Ellington](#) and [Billy Strayhorn](#)'s collaborative *The Nutcracker Suite*, premiered October 19 at the Benedum Center in Strayhorn's [Pittsburgh](#) home town. *Sugar Hill—The Ellington/Strayhorn Nutcracker* is set to the timeless music of Ellington and Strayhorn with a libretto by Jessica Swan. After the two-week Pittsburgh run, the performance moved to the New York City Center from November 15-27, just in time for the holidays. *Sugar Hill* was directed by Joshua Bergasse and produced by David Garfinkle.

Drummer and bandleader [Joe McCarthy](#) and saxophonist [Vince Norman](#) went back to Tchaikovsky's original 1892 ballet score for inspiration in crafting a Latinized version of the suite. McCarthy's New York Afro Bop Alliance Big Band recorded this version, and performed it at Dizzy's Club in New York City on December 14 and at Blues Alley in Washington, DC five nights later. The Pan American Nutcracker Suite (Origin, 2022), was released in September.

Correction: (Angelface, 2022)

BEST OF 2022 BEST OF 2022 BEST OF 2022 BEST OF 2022

MISCELLANEOUS CATEGORIES OF THE YEAR



LATIN RELEASES

MARTIN BEJERANO — #CubanAmerican (Figgländ)
PATRICIA BRENNAN — *More Touch* (Pyroclastic)
JOE MCCARTHY'S NEW YORK
AFRO BOP ALLIANCE BIG BAND —
The Pan American Nutcracker Suite (Angelface)
CHUCHO VALDÉS/PAQUITO D'RIVERA
REUNION SEXTET — *I Missed You Too!*
(Paquito-Sunnyside)
MIGUEL ZENÓN — *Música de Las Américas* (Miel Music)

SPECIAL
FEATURE:
BEST OF
2022

THE NEW YORK CITY JAZZ RECORD

”” **Testimonials**

"The [New York] Afro-Bop Alliance Big Band, captained by drummer Joe McCarthy, occupies a singular spot in the timeline of Afro-Cuban ensembles, at once a torchbearer of the genre's storied history and also one of its fiercest innovators."

DownBeat Magazine

"While there are many big bands on the scene, there are none quite like this. That the band can move quickly from angular, intervallic runs to lush, pensive moments is a testament to the virtuosity of its performers and the artistic suppleness of its leader."

Kabir Sehgal
Grammy® Award-Winning Producer

"A New Holiday Essential!"

Ted Cohen
Music and Television Executive

This is a truly transportive recording, taking the familiar into new realms, consistent with McCarthy's reputation as a true innovator of the Afro-Cuban style, an uncanny ability to honor tradition and look forward at the same time.

Jim Hynes
Making a Scene Magazine

"A five-star performance from end to end..."

Raul Da Gama
Latin Jazz Network

"*The Pan American Nutcracker Suite* confirms Joe McCarthy's vision: reinventing the past for the present, transporting the listener beyond."

Ken Micallef
Jazz Times Magazine

” Testimonials

"*The Pan American Nutcracker Suite's* distinct beauty comes from the ingenuity that McCarthy, conductor and co-arranger Vince Norman, and the New York Afro Bop Alliance Big Band bring to the nuance of arranging that incorporates so many musical styles. Utilizing the adaptability of the clave, the effervescence of Afro-Latin artistry and the measured brilliance of a band of seasoned, like-minded musicians, Joe McCarthy and the New York Afro Bop Alliance Big Band's *The Pan American Nutcracker Suite* is a brilliant reinvention of a timeless classic for generations to come."

Michael Ambrosino

- Writes about music, and culture, producing and hosting a variety of Jazz programs on 33third.org.

"If you think Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn's remarkable, 1960 interpretation of Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's 1892 ballet, *The Nutcracker*, is the final jazz word on the popular orchestral work, think again. Performed by drummer/leader Joe McCarthy's New York Afro Bop Alliance Big Band, *Pan American Nutcracker Suite* is what '60s Mad Men would've branded a "travelogue in sound." Expressed in riveting arrangements, acutely brilliant solos, and McCarthy's inventive arrangements and powerfully evocative drumming, *Pan American Nutcracker Suite* is an aural tour de force, an all-encompassing, immersive sound experience."

Ken Micallef
Music Writer

Listen to the Music



[**Click Here to Watch the Making of the Music Trailer on YouTube**](#)



[**Click Here to Stream The Pan American Nutcracker Suite on Spotify**](#)




[**Click Here to Listen to The Pan American Nutcracker Suite with Strings \(demo\) on SoundCloud**](#)

PANS features original Big Band, Orchestra, and Wind Ensemble arrangements, co-written by Joe McCarthy + Vince Norman and performed by The New York Afro Bop Alliance Big Band.



**THE PAN AMERICAN
NUTCRACKER SUITE**
REIMAGINED

A watercolor-style map of the Americas, including North and South America, rendered in soft, blended colors of orange, yellow, and light blue. The map is overlaid on a light grey rectangular background that contains the main text.

The Pan American Nutcracker Suite Reimagined is a global musical adventure fusing big band music, dance, and visual art that celebrates and unites the brilliance of Tchaikovsky's timeless masterpiece, "The Nutcracker Suite," with the beautifully diverse musical traditions of the Americas and beyond.

**THE PAN AMERICAN NUTCRACKER SUITE
REIMAGINED**

The Evolution

***MULTI-CULTURAL
ARRANGEMENTS AND
ORCHESTRATION***

with world rhythms from
Cuba, Africa, Brazil,
China, and more.

ACCESSIBLE
to all communities

***MULTIPLE
MUSICAL STYLES***

including Afro-Cuban,
Funk, Jazz, Classical, Big
Band, and more, with
improvisation coupled
with the unique colorings
of an 18-piece jazz
ensemble

MULTI-DIMENSIONAL
featuring "Latin Jazz"
and Contemporary
dance techniques,
Visual art graphics,
Lighting, and Costume
design

The Pan American Nutcracker Suite Reimagined is diverse, accessible, and globally inclusive.

**THE PAN AMERICAN
NUTCRACKER SUITE
REIMAGINED**

The Creative Team



MARIA TORRES

**Director, Choreographer,
Producer, Performer, Writer**



JOE MCCARTHY

**Drummer, Bandleader,
Co-arranger, Producer,
Latin Grammy® Award-Winner,
Grammy® Nominated**



CLAUDIA MULET

**Visual Artist, Performer,
Director**



JOE MCCARTHY

**Drummer, Bandleader,
Co-arranger, Producer,
Latin Grammy® Award-Winner,
Grammy® Nominated**

**[Click Here to Learn More
about Joe McCarthy.](#)**



MEET THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Joe McCarthy has led a diverse career as a drummer/percussionist, bandleader, producer, and educator in a myriad of settings, from symphony orchestra to bebop, big band, Afro-Cuban, theater, and beyond. Joe is the founder, leader, producer, and drummer of The New York Afro Bop Alliance Big Band, winner of the 2008 Latin Grammy® for Latin Jazz Album of the Year, and nominated in the same category for the 51st Grammy® Awards for the Heads-Up release “Afro Bop Alliance,” featuring Dave Samuels. “The Pan American Nutcracker Suite” is NYABABB's eighth recording on Joe’s new independent label, Angelface Records. ** 2023 Latin Grammy® Nominee for Best Arrangement

The New York Afro Bop Alliance Big Band

**Latin Grammy® Award-Winning, Grammy® Nominated



MEET THE BAND

[Click the Logo to Learn More about The Band](#)

"While there are many big bands on the scene, there are none quite like this."

~ Kabir Sehgal



MARIA TORRES

**Director, Choreographer,
Producer, Performer, Writer**

**[Click Here to Learn More
about Maria Torres](#)**

MEET THE CHOREOGRAPHER

Maria Torres is a world-renowned director-choreographer with an extensive career that transcends theatrical and commercial industries. Maria Torres' Puerto Rican, Dominican, and Cuban heritage inspires her artistry, and motivated the cultivation and creation of the "Latin Jazz" dance technique, which continues to be taught and performed worldwide. Maria's expertise spans a broad range of new and diverse projects from theater to television, film, and new media forms yet to be imagined.

** Recipient of the 2023 Dance Magazine Awards



CLAUDIA MULET

Visual Artist, Performer, Director

**[Click Here to Learn More
about Claudia Mulet](#)**

MEET THE VISUAL ARTIST

Claudia Mulet is a New York City based multidisciplinary artist, born and raised in Havana, Cuba. Graduated from the Higher Institute of Arts (ISA) in Cuba, with a Bachelor in Performing Arts and a fellowship in dramaturgy. Some of her work includes **Teatro El Publico (The Public Theater)** in Cuba, **Associate director** of *In The Heights*, Oklahoma City University; (guest director), the **Palace Theater** Ernie DiMattia Emerging young writers award; Agamemnon , (Associate Director) **Columbia University**, most recently (Associate Director) **2nd National Tour** of *On Your Feet* as part of the Salgado Productions, Observer at Susan Stroman’s New York New York on Broadway. Claudia is also an active performer. She has been part of shows like *On Your Feet* (First National Tour and Miami), *In the Heights* among others. Claudia was also part of *RENT in Havana*, directed by Andy Sr Jr in collaboration with Michael Greif, now a documentary, “*Revolution Rent*”, on HBO MAX. She believes in the future of a more inclusive and varied theater community.

Why Now?

With your help, this work is and can:

- Be an opportunity to present a **unique, world-class adaptation** of *The Nutcracker* unlike any other.
- **Have an impact on the world** - this music brings joy, wonder, and beauty with warmth and color that enriches.
- A creative, innovative take on a holiday classic that provides a **new, imaginative multi-dimensional experience** for all.
- **Be an opportunity for community engagement and arts education.** PANS's mission is to unite and educate communities through music, dance, art, and wellness. Accessibility, diversity, and inclusion are the gateway to understanding the arts as a universal language.
- Provide a different perspective on *The Nutcracker* of yesterday, and **open the world to the interpretation of the *Nutcracker Suite* of the future.**
- **Foster building new family holiday traditions** through the connection of communities and shared experiences.

***We look
forward to
collaborating
with you!***

FOR BOOKING INQUIRIES

MM Music Agency LLC

10000 Washington Blvd., Culver City, CA 90232

Phone: (+1) 212-229-9160

Email: maurice@mmmusicagency.com

CONTACT

Joe McCarthy

Email: joemcdrum@gmail.com

Phone: 410-279-1831

WEBSITES

www.angelface-records.com

www.joemccarthymusic.com

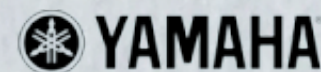
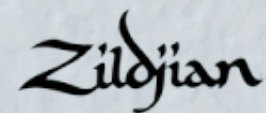


@joe_mcdrum
@afrobopalliance
@angelfacerecords



Joe McCarthy
Joe McCarthy's Afro Bop Alliance

Joe's Sponsors:



© 2023 Angelface Records LLC. All Rights Reserved.

