

Guillermo Nojehowicz

Argentinean drummer, composer, and educator Guillermo Nojehowicz grew up in Buenos Aires, surrounded by the tango of Astor Piazzolla, the rock songs of Luis Alberto Spinetta, and the jazz of Oscar Peterson. He recorded for CBS with the rock group Rayuela while attending the National Conservatory of Music Lopez Buchardo in Argentina.

Years later as a Fulbright scholarship recipient, Nojehowicz came to the US to attend Berklee College of Music, where his mentors included Herb Pomeroy, Billy Pierce, and Andy McGhee, graduating with a degree in Film Scoring. He has a Master's degree in Education from American International College.

His Brazilian-Argentinean jazz ensemble EL ECO has been called "the seedbed of Latin jazz in Boston." The band's new CD, *Puerto de Buenos Aires 1933*, was inspired by the journey of Nojehowicz's grandmother who left Warsaw for Argentina in 1933 with Nojehowicz's father, then just a small boy. They fled to a new life, but those they left behind perished in the Holocaust. The Latin jazz suite that Guillermo composed for the CD chronicles their long uncertain journey.

Puerto de Buenos Aires 1933 - released by New York-based Zoho Music - has been called "a beautiful and important record" by internationally renowned jazz vocalist Luciana Souza. Praise for EL ECO's earlier CD, *Two Worlds*, came from *Jazz Times* and *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, with *Kansai Time Out* (Japan) hailing that record as "true world music at its best."

Nojehowicz's band members include Helio Alves (piano), Fernando Huergo (bass), Kim Nazarian (vocals), Marco Pignataro (saxophone), and Grammy winning trumpeter Brian Lynch. Over the years, Nojehowicz has also played with Claudio Roditi, Romero Lubambo, Donny McCaslin, Osmany Paredes, and Airto Moreira, the master Brazilian drummer who played with jazz legend Miles Davis.

In addition to being featured on NPR's Jazz Set, EL ECO has performed at the Regattabar and at Scullers Jazz Club in Boston, the Blue Note in New York City, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Festival performances have included Telluride Jazz Celebration, where the line-up featured Herbie Hancock and Terence Blanchard; Freihofers Jazz Festival in Saratoga Springs, produced by the legendary George Wein; the Montreal Jazz Festival; the Curaçao North Sea Jazz Festival, where the line-up featured Jon Faddis and Richard Bona; the Buenos Aires Jazz Festival, and the Dominican Republic Jazz Festival.

From 1987 to 1993, Nojehowicz was an Artist-in-Residence at the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge, where he worked with film composer Elliot Goldenthal (Frida) and director Andrei Serban.

An international clinician and educator, Nojehowicz has taught at the Berklee Five Week Summer Program since 2010 and also taught at New England Conservatory. He teaches in his private studio and he is a faculty member with the Visual and Performing Arts Department at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. In addition to creating the school's percussion program and first drumline, Nojehowicz – or Mr. N, as many of his students call him – also created the school's World Jazz Ensemble (WJE).

He has led his WJE students in workshops with guest artists Joshua Redman and Wynton Marsalis through a collaboration with Harvard University. The group has performed at Ryle's Jazz Club and – in 2012 and 2016 - at the Panama Jazz Festival. Nojehowicz also led his WJE students in a performance with former U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky at Google Headquarters in Cambridge.

He studied piano and composition with Charlie Banacos and drums with Alan Dawson, Duduka DaFonseca, Portinho, and Gary Chaffee in the US, and with Beatriz Tabares and Chiche Heger in Argentina.