

## About Puerto de Buenos Aires 1933

### EL ECO with **Guillermo Nojehowicz**

Featuring **Helio Alves, Fernando Huergo, Kim Nazarian, Marco Pignataro & Brian Lynch**

*I am so happy to listen and to honestly say that this is a beautiful and important record.*

— Jazz vocalist **Luciana Souza**

Puerto de Buenos Aires 1933 is the long-awaited new CD from Argentinean drummer-composer Guillermo Nojehowicz and his jazz ensemble EL ECO. The disk is being released by Zoho Music, the Grammy-winning New York-based jazz label.

The project was inspired by a remnant of Guillermo's family history, the passport that his grandmother carried when she fled Warsaw for Argentina in 1933 along with her small son. Crossing Europe by train, they left behind everything familiar to face the unknown in Buenos Aires — a trip that spared them from the Holocaust, when so many others in their community later perished. The Latin jazz suite that chronicles their long, uncertain journey is the centerpiece of EL ECO's new recording, Puerto de Buenos Aires 1933.

Featured on the album are EL ECO ensemble members Brazilian pianist Helio Alves (Joe Henderson, Yo-Yo Ma), Argentinean bassist Fernando Huergo (Antonio Sanchez, Dave Liebman), Italian saxophonist Marco Pignataro (Eddie Gomez, George Garzone), and vocalist Kim Nazarian (New York Voices). They are joined by Grammy award winning guest trumpeter Brian Lynch (Eddie Palmieri). Guillermo has played with Claudio Roditi, Romero Lubambo, Donny McCaslin, and Airto Moreira, the master Brazilian drummer who played with jazz legend Miles Davis.

He and the band are joined on several tunes by Italian accordionist Roberto Cassan, who sadly passed away shortly after this recording. The album also includes percussion by Argentinean drummer Franco Pinna, with string arrangements by pianist Nando Michelin, performed by Megumi Stohs Lewis (violin), Ethan Wood (violin), Sarah Darling (viola), and Leo Eguchi (cello).

A drummer who plays with the ear of a composer, Guillermo wrote most of the material on this new release. With percussive drive and lyric focus, EL ECO's music digs deep into straight-ahead jazz, punctuated by a deep respect for the complexity of Latin and Afro-Cuban rhythms darkened, occasionally, by echoes of Piazzolla. Here that reverberates with the certainty of the past, stretching back into a time of fear and flight and the fragility of survival.

The evocative sound of Puerto de Buenos Aires 1933 is already capturing attention. "There is something very powerful in these compositions," said internationally renowned composer **Osvaldo Golijov**. "Excellent material — and great musicians!" said Oscar-winning film composer **Gustavo Santaolalla** (Motorcycle Diaries, Babel). "And I love that the music is rooted in personal identity - something that I always try to include in what I do."