

BIO

"It's not just the rhythmic potency of Venezuelan music that stands out here; indeed, on a number of the tracks it's Vielma's indebtedness to the wider jazz tradition that is striking." - All About Jazz

"The ensemble is not quite hard-bop and not quite salsa-they are something more complex and unprecedented, and take sharp turns at times." - Downbeat Magazine

"A superb recording with an excellent band, superior compositions and superb soloing." - Jazz and Blues Report

'Venezuelan Jazz Collective -VJC' is an innovative jazz ensemble comprised by an outstanding cast of world-class musicians based in the US led by percussionist/composer Fran Vielma. Their awareness of the jazz tradition, concert music, and an upbringing surrounded by the Caribbean and Southamerican genres allow these performers to move among different musical idioms with masterful spontaneity and musicianship.

The music of their debut album "Tendencias" materializes Vielma's vision of showcasing Venezuelan music genres blended with jazz and concert music elements. The work has been well received by the critics and it was included in the "Best of 2018" lists by NYC Jazz Record, Downbeat, Latin Jazz Network, and Ladosis Magazine.

The ensemble was presented for the first time at the prestigious John F. Kennedy Center in D.C. and in 2019 started an US & CARIBBEAN TOUR holding performances at The Gallery at High Cotton -Apalachicola FL, University of Florida -Gainesville, Conservatorio de Música de Puerto Rico -San Juan, MATCH - Houston, Rockwood Music Hall-NYC, SOTTO-DC, JEN Conference and NOLA Jazz Museum - New Orleans, as well as CMA Conference -NYC, Festival Internacional Jazz Plaza -Cuba, and Dallas, TX.

VJC is premiering the suite "Common Grounds" commission to Fran Vielma by Chamber Music America at SFJAZZ in San Francisco in fall 2022 followed by a tour around the west coast.



Web

www.franvielma.com/projects

Social Networks

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