

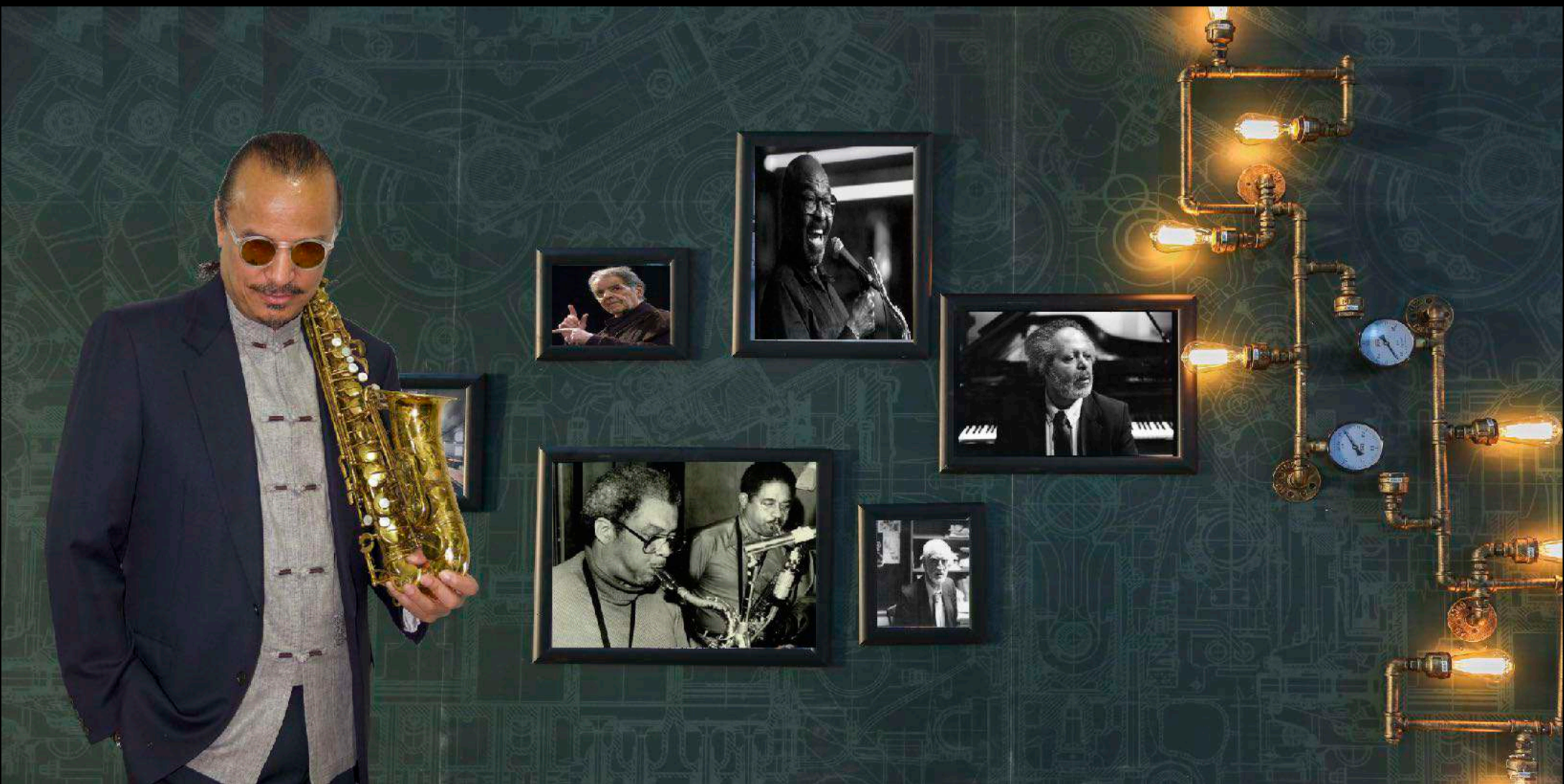
# SIRAJ

ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT  
2026-27





# Making the connection between past legends



Jaki Byard

Joe Allard

Ernie Wilkins

George Russell

Frank Foster

James Moody

Frank Wess



And Today's Legends



# SIRAJ



# BIO: DEFINITION

SIRAJ

**Siraj (\_Si'-Raj'>)** n 1. Light. Form of radiant energy that stimulates. 2. Luminous energy. 3. Source of brightness like the Sun or Torch. 4. Spiritual understanding. 5. Aspect to see things in a new light. 6. To become ignited!!!

*... ALL of the above defines Siraj.*

Spanning cultures, generations and genres The fiery musical talent of composer/musician and entertainer, Siraj has moved crowds for decades with his uncompromising depth and commitment to artistry.

His self titled debut solo album (SIRAJ) is a testament to leading the way for the future of instrumentalist in an era where over saturation and un-originality has become the norm.



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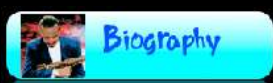


## Siraj

**Composer, Saxophonist, Flautist, Producer, Educator,  
Health Practitioner**

**Siraj's long journey has again landed with several new projects that present his unique style and approach to music.**

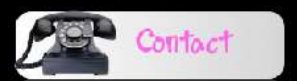
**Born in New York City and raised in one of the most musical environments to produce artist (Funkin' for *Jamaica, Queens*) is the progeny of a multi-racial family that has him genetically encompassing all races and a love for music as the true universal language. Exposed to music at an early age (*when the New York City School system had a plethora of music programs*) his development was one where Jazz, Funk, Soul and Latin were one of the many styles marinated in the cultural framework of New York.**



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Playing in early bands, his first professional gig was with a Basement Band while in High School he helped form called “AIR” (*Advanced Instrumental Revolution*). There was also a famous smooth jazz alumnus. Having attended college in the Bronx. Siraj continued his studies while becoming the private student of such Jazz greats as Frank Foster, Frank Wess, and Ernie Wilkins. After encouragement from an adjunct faculty member at BCC, and his close relationship with the Late Great Ernie Wilkins, Siraj was accepted into the music program at the New England Conservatory. It is there where he met and became a student to Joe Allard, Jaki Byard and George Russell.

When asked Siraj was quoted as saying “Jaki and Louise Byard” were my adopted musical parents. James Moody another musical father figure helped forge a universal style for improvisation that has continued to inspire Siraj to this day.

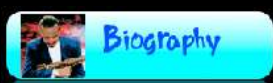


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After graduation from The New England Conservatory Siraj was invited to join Mongo Santamaria Latin Jazz Orchestra (**regarded as a major exponent of authentic Afro-Cuban music**). Recording 3 albums with the King of the Congas” (one which was Grammy Nominated) and contributing 2 of his compositions. Siraj credits his association with Mongo and (Bongo and Timbale colleague) Pablo Rosario for solidifying his expertise on Latin and Brazilian instruments.

His career has spanned from Jazz to Classical, Soul to Neo-Soul, Latin and Brazilian, R&B and Hip Hop. Siraj performing and recording around the world has positioned him with a very unique perspective in music.

Placing his success aside, Siraj has always been a working musician. He has toured and recorded with some of the greats in jazz history, Mongo Santamaria, (*King of the Congas*) Tito Puente (*El Ray*), Jimmy Scott (Jazz vocalist extraordinaire), Wilson Pickett (*Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee*), Doug E Fresh (*Hip Hop Entertainer*). Performances heard on the CD “Beleza” a *Tribute to Brazilian Composer Antonio Carlos Jobim Saxophone/Flute soloist*” with the voice of Gabriella Anders as well as top New York Studio and Brazilian musician. MELODIA PARA CONGAS” (*Conga legend Carlos “Patato” Valdez*) (Mapleshade Records). “Doin What I Gotta Do “ ( *hip-hop artist Doug E. Fresh*).



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## **Siraj** Records and SEG “*Siraj Entertainment Group*”

Like many of his contemporaries in the genre, Siraj realized early (*Debut Release 2001*) that the business models of those former big record companies did not fit into the current economic structures, public awareness and artist dedication of urban instrumental artists. Inspired by family, friends and a loyal supporter base, Siraj leveraged his esoteric success to actualize an Entertainment syndicate that could produce his music as well as serve other aspiring artists.

As a busy composer, producer, educator, health practitioner and philanthropic ambassador for music, Siraj has been working steadily on his next CD release. Entitled “**Native Tongue.**” Circulated solely through his personalized network of online distribution and promotion is the result of years of hard work and dedication. Focusing on his eclectic range of genres ranging from Jazz, Smooth Jazz, R&B, Latin, Brazilian, Neo-Soul and Funk and R&B. **Native Tongue**’s release is scheduled shortly after bridging the hiatus of time spent crafting a new direction in instrumental music culture while honoring the past with acknowledgement to his great teachers whom influenced his dedication to moving the music forward.



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The journey of an independent musician is very often a difficult one. The perseverance, determination and love to create works that inspire the people are daunting. However in a world where hard work is so often overlooked, Siraj continues to forge ahead to produce music for the soul.

Touring and recording with some of the greats in music. The release of **Native Tongue** 2020 should prove to be a year that further asserts **Siraj** as one of the most electrifying and groundbreaking pioneers on the contemporary urban instrumental jazz scene.



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# PRESS REVIEWS



"SIRAJ AND HIS CASCADING CRESCENDOS... LEFT THE CROW GASPING AT HIS WOODWIND WIZARDRY"

Steve Israel The Villager

"TOP SOLOIST... HE CONTROLS EVERY BURST OF EMOTIONAL SKIN CHILLING SOUNDS"

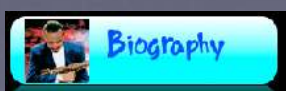
David Weiss LA Herald Examiner

"THE VERSATILE SIRAJ MILKING THE CROW WITH TRICKY REPETITIONS ON SOPRANO AND TENOR SAX AS WELL AS FLUTE"

Leonard Feather Los Angeles Times

"SIRAJ WHO DEMONSTRATED MUSICALLY WHY HIS SAX AND FLUTE WORK WERE FAVORED WITH MONGO SANTAMARIA"... "SIRAJ SOMETIMES LYRICAL SOMETIMES PIERCING ALTO... GAVE THE AUDIENCE THE ENTERTAINING EVENING IT HAD COME FOR"

Curt Yeske The Times



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BACKBEATS

MODERN  
DRUMMER

## 2002 Montreal Drum Fest

exciting new drumming talents.

Friday, November 8



The star of Friday's show was legendary studio and touring drummer Omar Hakim. Omar began with a demo of the Roland V-Drums kit, explaining how he uses it for composition and recording purposes. Then he stepped to his Pearl acoustic kit, from which he introduced his crack fusion/funk band: Special EFX's Chieli Minucci (guitar) and Jay Rowe (keyboards), Gerald Brooks (bass), and Siraj Al'Hasan (sax and percussion). The band performed a variety of tunes that allowed Omar to display his dynamic style: powerful, fluid, creative, and incredibly musical.



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# FAN REVIEWS

SIRAJ

author: Cherlynn  
Loving it and you as always.  
Versatile, sensuous, spirited,  
eclectic, just off-the-hook,  
Andalusia



author: Tomoko  
I love this music Andalusia  
it's SMOOTH, SEXY,  
SOPHISTICATED, VELVETY,  
SENSUOUS, CAPTIVATING,  
SPELLBINDING,  
MESMERIZING,  
ENCHANTING, I just close  
my eyes and I am taken to  
another world!!! Siraj's' music  
is food to the Soul!!



author: Jen  
This is wonderful....what a  
relaxing feeling you get.  
Enjoy what your doing....your  
mastering it. Simply  
MARVELOUS!!!!  
Passion and Class



author: Nydia DeAvila  
Diversity is the key, art that  
delivers passion, variety and  
class, you do not find often,  
SIRAJ just did it ALL! My  
respect to you! You have in  
me a FAN for life!  
Absolutely Smooth!!  
Congrats Siraj!! I love this



author: Pj Crowder  
It's been a long time coming  
my friend and I am so very  
happy and proud of your  
achievement. I hope you sell  
a truck load of CDs because  
this is BAAADDDD!! Always  
a friend, PJ  
LOVE...NOT LIKE, LOVE!



author: PHNXRISNG  
THIS YEARS CHRISTMAS  
GIFT TO ALL!!!  
this album is great to the last  
note.



author: stephanie r. hill  
this cd has the best of both  
worlds. the cd has nice jazz  
and love music rolled into  
one wonderful album. you  
can tell it was wrote with a lot  
of love. this one is a keeper.  
Its TERRIFIC



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# DISCOGRAPHY

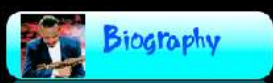
SIRAJ

## Native Tongue

*Composer, Producer, Arranger and Multi-Instrumentalist*



Native Tongue the 2020 release



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# DISCOGRAPHY

SIRAJ

## Self Titled CD “SIRAJ”

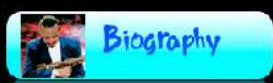


**“Siraj’s discography is the perfect vehicle for showcasing his command of diverse musical styles. Critically acclaimed for his solo abilities on saxophone and flute.”**



Available online with [sirajonline.com](http://sirajonline.com).  
Email: [Siraj@sirajonline.com](mailto:Siraj@sirajonline.com) or [A.Siraj@epk.com](mailto:A.Siraj@epk.com)

*Composer, Producer, Arranger and Multi-Instrumentalist*



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# DISCOGRAPHY

SIRAJ

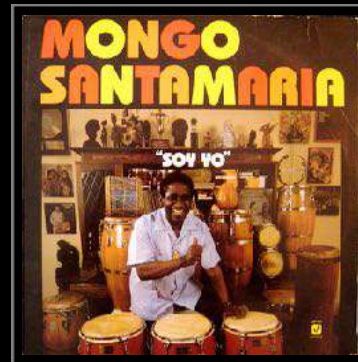


“Siraj 's discography of is the perfect vehicle for his showcasing his command of diverse musical styles. Critically acclaimed for his solo abilities on saxophone and flute.”



## MONGO MAGIC

Mongo Santamaria's Grammy Nominated Album originally Issued on The Roulette Label



## Soy Yo

Mongo Santamaria's Album originally Issued on the Concord Picante Label



## Free Spirit

Mongo Santamaria's Album originally Issued on The Tropical Buddha Label Re-issued on M.I.L Multimedia LLC



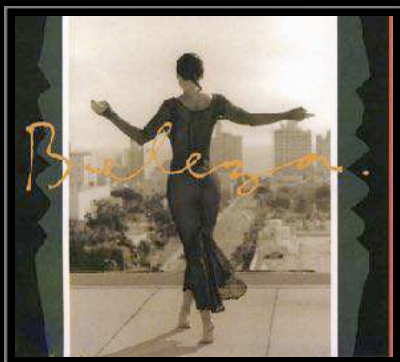
## Mucho Mongo

Re-issued on Compilation CD [Recall (UK)] Featuring Siraj" Original Composition "Oasis" Originally issued on the "Soy Yo" CD



## Latin Romance

Compilation CD Major Label UMG Featuring Siraj" Original Composition "Oasis" Originally issued on the "Soy Yo" CD



## Beleza

A Tribute to Antonio Carlos Jobim Samson Record Label



## Melodia Para Congas

Featuring "Carlos Patato Vaaldez



Biography



Press



Discography



Media



Store



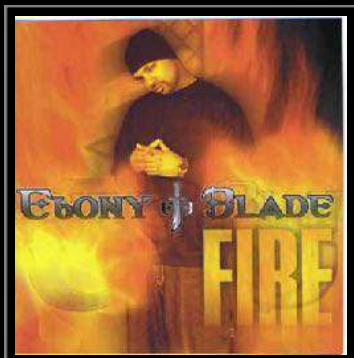
Contact

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# DISCOGRAPHY

SIRAJ



## FIRE

Ebony Blade :  
SIRAJ's Produces  
and Composes  
with Aspiring Hip Hop  
Artist Ebony Blade  
(Formerly know as  
New World Poet



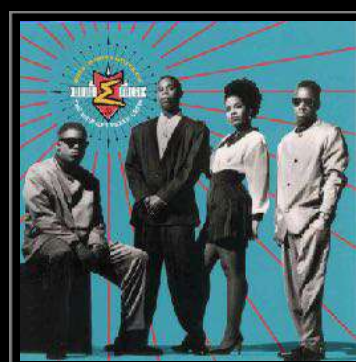
## Charles McGee, "Finally"

Produced, Mixed and  
Master Jazz Artist's  
Debut release. Record  
Label: DC Acoustic  
Designs, Inc. -  
CEM Records



## UPTOWN SUITE

Marcus Persiani  
Co-Produced, Mixed  
and Master Jazz  
Artist's Sophomore  
release



## Doin-What-I-Gotta-Do

Doug E Fresh Siraj  
appears on the  
Remix of "If I Was  
Your Man"  
Bungalo Records



## Lee Truesdale "UNFINISHED BUSINESS"

Recorded Sax, Flute,  
Drums and Percussion  
on this R&B Vocalist  
2011 Debut Release  
Record Label:  
Truesytunes  
Entertainment



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# MEDIA:PHOTOS

SIRAJ



L-R. JAMES MOODY, SIRAJ, "DIZZY" GILLESPIE



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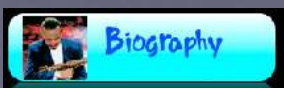


# MEDIA:PHOTOS

SIRAJ



L-R. SIRAJ, GROVER WASHINGTON JR.  
REGINA BELL (BACK OF HEAD)



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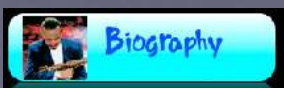


# MEDIA:PHOTOS

SIRAJ



L-R. PHIL WOODS, SIRAJ,



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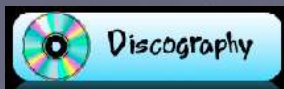


# MEDIA:PHOTOS

SIRAJ



L-R. SIRAJ, ANDY GONZALES, PAQUITO D'RIVERA. MARIO RIVERA



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SIRAJ -EPK





SIRAJ -EPK

L-R. BABA OLATUNJI, SIRAJ,



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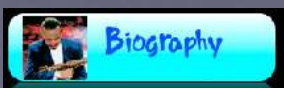


# MEDIA:PHOTOS

SIRAJ



L-R BACK. SIRAJ, HILL GREEN  
SITING  
BRIAN KIRK JIMMY SCOTT KINICHE SHAMAZU



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SIRAJ -EPK

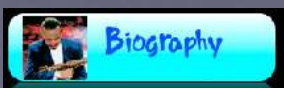


# MEDIA:PHOTOS

SIRAJ



L-R. NAJEE, PERCY SUTTON, SIRAJ, FAREED



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L-R. EDDIE RESTO, MONGO SANTAMARIA,  
SAM FURNACE, SIRAJ,

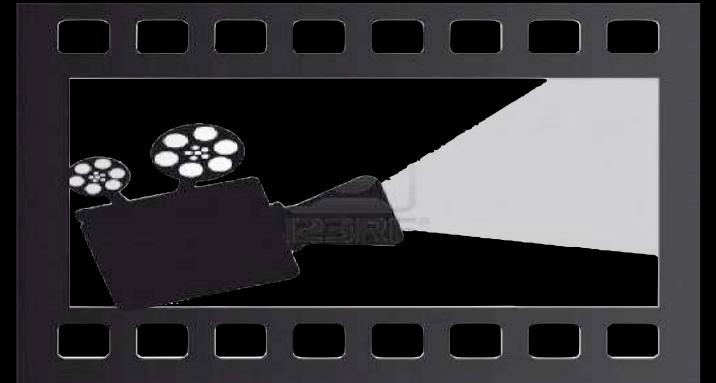


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# MEDIA:VIDEOS

SIRAJ

## Mongo Santamaria "Afro Blue "Heat Wave" Series



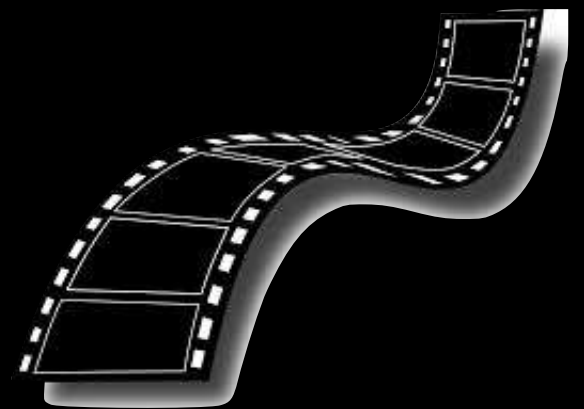
<http://youtu.be/yPlfoXogtdI>

## Mambo Mongo-Colombia, South America

<http://youtu.be/ZjjEHw9KCW4>

## Afro Blue -University of Massachusetts, Amherst

<http://youtu.be/NeXdn9yUhOw>

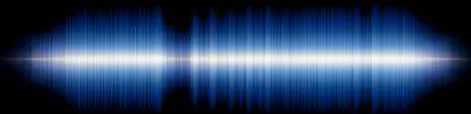


Press the link to access the video via the web



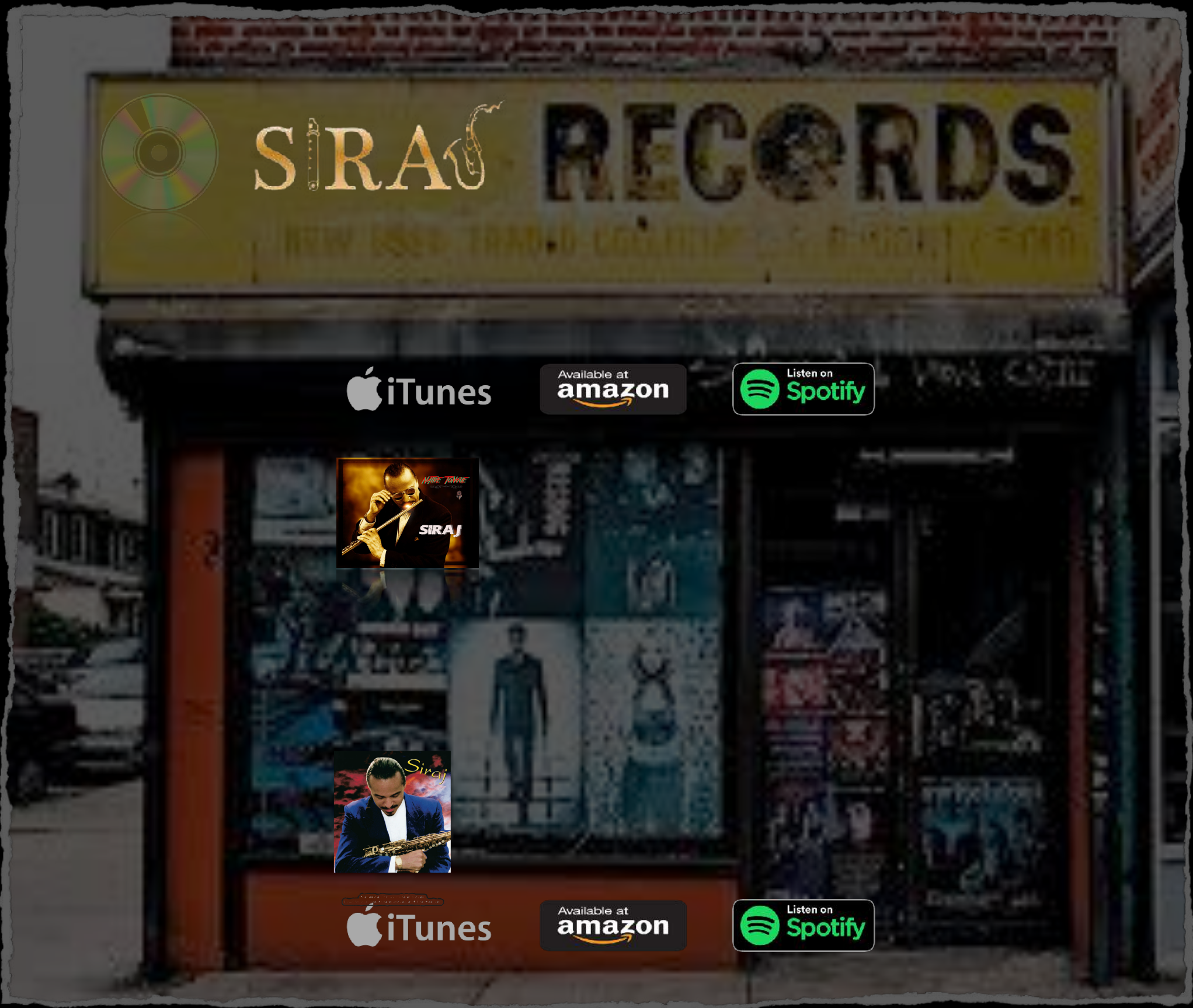
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STORE

Press the icons to access the music via the web



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# CONTACT

SIRAJ



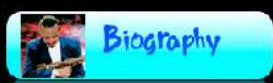
## For Bookings Contact

S Management  
@

[info@sirajplays.com](mailto:info@sirajplays.com)  
Or The World Wide Web

[sirajplays.com](http://sirajplays.com)

Siraj performs as a solo artist or with his band in a number of configurations.



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