

CITATIONS DE PRESSE SUR « THE HARLEM SUITE », de Jacques Schwarz-Bart

Jacques' music is "soulful and timeless." "His melodies tell a story and his writing is very cinematic, capturing the beauty and emotion of the themes and narratives he is working with".

Terri Lyne Carrington

"The Harlem Suite opens with "Sun Salutation," a modern bop burner on which Schwarz-Bart's spiraling melodic improvisations pirouettes atop Gilmore and Penman's fast-paced shuffle with the graceful athleticism of Muhammad Ali in the boxing ring.

Other highlights include "From Gorée To Harlem," a stunning ballad on which Schwarz-Bart depicts the horrendous transatlantic slave trade of Africans departing Gorée, Senegal, to the Americas. Fortner's languid piano accompaniment atop Carrington and Penman's pensive rhythm buoys Schwarz-Bart's passionate wails and melancholy melodic improvisations, giving the composition a picturesque sensibility.

On the prancing "Time Travel," Schwarz-Bart sublimely connects Haitian Voodoo Kontredans rhythms with a Cuban tumbao bass line without sacrificing the lithe rhythmic propulsion associated with modern jazz. His saxophone passages writhe and soar gorgeously across the shifting rhythmic bed created by Penman and Gilmore."

John Murph, DOWNBEAT

The Harlem Suite is stylistically panoramic, in any case, as it sees Schwarz-Bart celebrate the majesty of swing with a blend of appealing themes and attention-grabbing improvisation on smart changes, but as the set unfolds he moves stealthily into soulful grooves and balladry that intriguingly plays with tonality, finding freedom within form.

Kevin Legendre, JAZZWISE

« The Harlem Suite s'inscrit dans la continuité parfaite d'une œuvre qui se confond avec la vie : militante, spirituelle, désormais installée aux sommets des grands créateurs du Jazz et des musiques caribéennes. »

Francis Marmande, Le Monde

La Harlem Suite est un Périple fait de morceaux heureux et tristes, de mélodies enlevées et éplorées, où l'auteur excelle une fois de plus dans son habileté à faire dialoguer un vécu individuel et une situation socio-historique dont on parle trop peu.

Pauline Guedj, POLITIS

You don't hear nostalgia or sadness in Jacques Schwarz-Bart's compositions, which adds to their greatness. Instead, he creates music that encapsulates the resilience and complexity of the Black experience in the Caribbean and the U.S.

Scott Haas, The Bay STATE BANNER

Inspired by the Guadeloupean-born saxophonist's two decades in New York's uptown axis of Afro-American culture, the evening's engaging music departed from his celebrated work merging contemporary jazz with the Gwo-Ka rhythms of his Caribbean island homeland and the hip hop beats of his adopted neighborhood, charging straight ahead with arresting originality. Promising the full house, "We're going to make it real for you guys," Schwarz-Bart kicked off the set with his "Time Travel", on which his mottled-toned tenor soared over the rhythm section's modulating meters. On the winding off-kilter blues "Twisted", the band traversed hard-swinging tempo changes with virtuosic aplomb.

Russ Musto, ALL ABOUT JAZZ

Avec un all-stars franco-caribéo-américain, à la hauteur de cette suite dont les contrastes de styles forment au final un tout d'une remarquable cohérence, Jacques Schwarz-Bart relie à sa façon le bop, le Herbie Hancock électrique, la nu-soul ou encore l'univers de John Coltrane, et livre une performance de haut vol, impressionnante par ses multiples facettes techniques, mais par-dessus tout touchante par le portrait qu'elle dresse, à travers cette fresque dédiée à Harlem, du leader lui-même.

Yazid Kouloughli, JAZZ MAGAZINE

The Harlem Suite is not just a reminder of Schwarz-Bart's own years in New York, but a powerful exploration of what Harlem has contributed to jazz history, as it is the birthplace of modern jazz's most important musical revolution.

Olaf Maikopf, JAZZTHETIK

The Harlem Suite is lush, vibrant, full of the lyrical Genius that is consistently the art of Jacques Schwarz-Bart.

33RD JAZZ RADIO

Une sorte de grand voyage dans la pluralité des idiomes, et dans la mémoire, avec un constant *feeling*.

XAVIER PRÉVOST

The Harlem Suite, la musique comme source de guérison et de célébration de la vie!
Indiscutablement authentique!

Dominique Boulay, PARIS MOVE

Développant une œuvre qui allie le physique et la métaphysique, Schwarz-Bart possède cet esprit de découverte et d'invention, cette passion du partage, qui font de lui un véritable musicien du monde.

Aliocha Wald Lasowski, ACTUALITÉ JUIVE

For years, Guadeloupean saxophonist Jacques Schwarz-Bart has been one of the leading lights of Caribbean jazz, lending his improvisational skills to both the Gwo ka rhythms of his homeland as well as the voodoo rhythms of Haiti. He's also been at the forefront of mixing jazz with hip-hop and R&B ever since he was a member of seminal bands led by Roy Hargrove and D'Angelo.

Noah Shaffer, WBUR