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Bio

Defying all musical labels, Argentine guitarist/composer Cristian Perez weaves together genres from throughout the world to reveal the universality of music. With a strong foundation in classical, jazz and South American music, he crafts a singular voice, rich in sensitivity and nuance, that freely explores the possibilities of music as an art form.

Currently based in Washington DC, Cristian has performed with many of the best musicians in the US East Coast (i.e.: Victor Provost, Joe McCarthy, Hendrik Meurkens, John Kocur, Veronneau, etc.) and played at some of the top venues in the Metropolitan area, such as Blues Alley, Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, Bohemian Caverns, Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, and Twins Jazz. Cristian has performed in Canada and Dominican Republic, and in 2011, he performed as part of the GMU Jazz Ensemble in China. Cristian has had the honor of being a Strathmore artist in residence '14-'15, and in late 2015, he has toured Bolivia and Korea.

Over the last few years, Cristian has embellished his musical soundscape by re-discovering the folk music of his childhood and exploring the music of other cultures. These influences have helped to shape Cristian's original compositions and arrangements. In his quintet, Cristian is joined by flute, bandoneon, upright bass, and drums to form a hybrid ensemble - equal parts jazz combo, chamber ensemble and world music band. Cristian also enjoys performing in smaller settings, including duo and solo. His quest for beauty and self-expression takes the listener on an ever-changing journey, past the conventional boundaries of genre and style.

CD - Anima Mundi



Available 2/22/16

"Anima Mundi is an impressive set by Cristian Perez, taking the listener on a variety of different musical journeys. This colorful program is well worth exploring."

(Scott Yanow - Jazz journalist/historian)

Cristian's debut album Anima Mundi, released in February 2016, draws from a palette of many different traditions. In it, Cristian presents 8 original compositions and 3 covers with the help of an all-star cast of musicians: Yana Hristova (flute), Daniel Brown (bass), Emmanuel Trifilio (bandoneon), Joe McCarthy (drums), Bruno Lucini (percussion), Lynn Veronneau (guest vocals), Victor Provost (steel pan), Haroon Alam (tablas), and Kevin Elam (low whistle and back up vocals).

"...his vibe is to celebrate the soul of the world..."

"Like a Lindstad or a Liebert that knows how to put their restlessness to good use, the places Perez takes your ears are places they've only heard in dreams."

Chris Spector (Editor and Publisher)

Anima Mundi [Latin for "Soul of the World"] is a term used by the ancients to denote the apparent universal force that binds together the natural world and its diverse components. The pieces in this album depict this imaginative vision by bringing together disparate members of Anima Mundi and portraying them in unorthodox settings, and reflect the diversity and dynamism of both nature and music.