

Lucian Ban & Abraham Burton

blacksalt



Lucian Ban piano | Abraham Burton tenor sax

Transylvanian expat pianist **Lucian Ban** and American tenor saxophonist **Abraham Burton** present **blacksalt**, a unique jazz amalgamation of Transylvanian and Belizean folk, improvisations and original compositions informed by the twin tradition of jazz and European folk & chamber music.

Their collaboration began in New York in powerhouse **ELEVATION 4tet** featuring drummer Eric McPherson & bassist John Hebert and the music has been called “*a triumph of emotional and musical communication*” by All About Jazz. Their latest album **Songs From Afar** (Sunnyside) received 5* stars in Downbeat and was named a **DOWNBEAT BEST ALBUM OF 2016**. **BLACKSALT** has performed from Dizzy’s at Lincoln Center in NYC to Paris to Eastern Europe and countless more venues bringing together two traditions, two musical worlds, and many musical elements in a unique identity that truly spans continents and styles.



*“Like Wayne Shorter, McCoy Tyner and other vanguard bandleaders of that era, the Romanian born pianist-composer **Lucian Ban** alongside intense saxophonist **Abraham Burton** favor searching post bop that cranes toward the avant-garde without losing the buoyancy of swing”* **TIME OUT New York**

Sound samples:

Sun Birth <https://soundcloud.com/soundluc/sun-birth>

Clayton Gone <https://soundcloud.com/soundluc/clayton-gone>

Clay Groove <https://soundcloud.com/soundluc/clay-groove>

ABRAHAM BURTON

New York saxophonist Abraham Burton's music has been called exquisite jazz. New York Times says about Burton ***"If the young saxophonist Abraham Burton was ever to be drawn in a cartoon, he'd have flames coming out of his saxophone. His solos are powerful and creative"*** He began developing his natural skills by attending Hartford's Hartt School of Music where he learned well from talented artists like Michael Carvin and Jackie McLean. Burton graduated from the school with a B.A. in music and a new love for the work of jazz greats such as Louis Armstrong and Lester Young. In 1992, the young Burton became a member of *The Wailers*, headed by legendary drummer **Art Taylor**. The group released two albums together. They also did a number of tours through Europe. He went on to form his own band in '94 entitled **The Abraham Burton Quartet** which recorded ***Closest to the Sun, The Magician*** and ***Cause and Effect*** the latter being collaboration with drummer extraordinaire Eric McPherson, on the Enja Records label. Abraham attributes much of his success from experiences acquired performing, touring and recording with masters and being affiliated with numerous and notable musicians such as Roy Haynes, Louis Hayes, Walter Bishop jr, Horace Tapscott, Kenny Barron, Jimmy Smith, John Hicks, Santi Debriano, Bill Saxton, Gary Bartz, Victor Lewis, Michael Carvin, Mulgrew Miller, Steve Nelson, Cindy Blackman, Ray Drummond, Terumasa Hino, Billy Hart, Peter Washington, Conrad Herwig, Steve Davis, Grisella Oliphant, Rein De Graff, Nasheet Waits, Eric McPherson, Eddie Henderson, David Murray, Antoine Rooney, James Carter, Yosuke Inoue, James Hurt, Marc Cary, Sam Newsome, Duane Eubanks, Winton Marcellus, Roy Hargrove, Wallace Rooney, Cyrus Chestnut, Christian McBride. For more info www.abrahamburtonjazz.com



LUCIAN BAN



LUCIAN BAN was raised in a small village in northwest Transylvania, in “the region where Bartok did his most extensive research and collecting of folk songs” and grew up listening to both traditional and classical music. He studied composition at the Bucharest Music Academy while simultaneously leading his own jazz groups, and notes that his approach to improvisation has been influenced by “the profound musical contributions of Romanian modern classical composers like Aurel Stroe, Anatol Vieru and of course Enesco”. Desire to get closer to the source of jazz brought him to the US, and since moving from Romania to New York in 1999 his ensembles have included many of New York’s finest players

all the while maintaining a worldwide touring schedule.

He has recorded 14 albums as a leader for labels such as ECM Records, Sunnyside, Clean Feed, Jazzaway, CIMP, etc. In 2013 ECM records releases "TRANSYLVANIAN CONCERT" his duet with violist Mat Maneri. His 2nd album with ELEVATION “Songs from Afar” featuring Transylvanian traditional singer Gavril Tarmure was released by Sunnyside Records in 2016 and was a DOWNBEAT BEST ALBUM of the YEAR receiving a 5* review. In 2017 Clean Feed Records releases SOUNDING TEARS featuring Mat Maneri, Lucian Ban and legendary saxophonist Evan Parker.

For more info www.lucianban.com