



Ameen Saleem, one of the most talented bass players of the international jazz scene, debuts on the music market worldwide in October with his first album as leader, "**The Groove Lab**". This outstanding album recorded in New York, produced by Jando Music and Via Veneto Jazz, is remarkably colourful, reflecting the artistic ferment of the multifaceted lifestyle of New York and Brooklyn: powerful groovy waves, funk beats and jazz vibes, bluesy solos and rock electric guitar solos - all bound together with remarkable fluidity, revealing empathic group interplay and innovative ways to work within jazz.

The very title of this unique album reflects the constant research and interweaving of musical genres and styles, which has long been object of study and experimentation at Ameen Saleem's studio apartment in Flat Bush, a temple where endless sessions on sound and rhythm take place - a real "groove lab" where Ameen has assembled a stellar cast of musicians to play his original compositions.

A member of the Roy Hargrove quintet and Big Band for several years, Ameen Saleem is an all-round artist. A native of Washington DC, since the start of his career his great compositional and technical skills have been instantly recognized. Although mainly grounded in jazz, Saleem's music cannot be strictly defined as pertaining to a particular genre but, rather, as a uniquely personal style that spans a vast musical geography.

"The Groove Lab", in fact, explores new sonic territory, incorporating a broad range of sounds and influences. The music may be defined as a sort of neo-soul, where jazz, soul and funky blend together in an authentic and refined way. Ameen Saleem plays both the bass and double bass and is flanked by two female vocalists with varying approaches, **Ramona Dunlap** and **Mavis Swan Poole**, **Stacy Dillard** (tenor and soprano sax), **Cyrus Chestnut** (acoustic piano, Wurlitzer and Rhodes organ), **Craig Magnano** (guitar), two uniquely talented drummers **Jeremy Bean Clemons** and **Gregory Hutchinson**, and his friend and colleague **Roy Hargrove** (trumpet and flugelhorn).

An excerpt from the album liner notes by Roy Hargrove:

"Ameen Saleem is one of my favourite musicians. I find this recording enlightening due to its musical versatility. With such a vast stylistic territory it's very fun to listen to, from beginning to end. During the recording at the studio, I was impressed by Saleem's talent in knowing how to choose the right timing, something that is learned from great masters such as Thelonious Monk. I'm sure the audience will enjoy this musical journey."

The album has already gone top 10 on iTunes (currently No.10) a few days following the album pre-sale, and is broadcast in rotation on Italy's Radio 24. The album presentation tour kicks off Sunday November 8th at the Blue Note in Milan and follows with concerts in several Italian cities, among which are the following dates: Friday 13th at *Ricomincio da Tre* Music Club of Perugia, on Saturday 14 at the Teatro Verdi for the Padua Jazz Festival, on Sunday 15th at the *Auditorium Parco della Musica* for the Rome Jazz Festival.

Ameen Saleem: "I am very proud of this achievement, all the musicians did a great job in

sharing my vision for the music. On some songs, the outcome of the recording exceeded my expectations and imagination. It was a great pleasure to work with them and with everyone involved in this project. "

TRACKLIST:

1) "Korinthis" 6:44 2) "Epiphany" 4:45 3) "Don't Walk Away" 4:59 4) "I.L.Y.T." 7:14 5) "Love Don't" 4:53 6) "Neo" 4:15 7) "For My Baby" 6:30 8) ""A" Theme" 6:16 9) "Best Kept Secret" 5:01 10) "Baby It'll Be Alright" 6:11 11) "So Glad" 6:12 12) "Possibilities" 8:22 13) "For Tamisha" 6:28

LINK

Album promo: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50Mhl60h2OY> Track "Don't walk away"

on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=in2zRAA4C9Q> Track "Neo" on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KPlxEDqR4IO>

iTunes: <https://itunes.apple.com/it/album/groove-lab-feat.-cyrus-chestnut/id1043102638?ign-mpt=uo%3D2>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ameen.saleem.7>

www.jandomusic.com

www.viavenetojazz.it

CONTACTS Press Office Fiorenza Gherardi De Candeï +39 328 1743236

fiorenzagherardi@gmail.com

Management & Booking Daniela Lebano +39 333 2062989 danielalebano@gmail.com