

**YOSVANY TERRY / BAPTISTE TROTIGNON**  
**ANCESTRAL MEMORIES**



**Yosvany Terry**, alto & soprano saxophones, chekere  
**Baptiste Trotignon**, piano  
**Yunior Terry**, bass  
**Clarence Penn**, drums

*"This is a special opportunity to express my grandmother's Haitian heritage with people who speak the same language." —Yosvany Terry*

With grant support from the French-American Jazz Exchange Program, Cuban-American saxophonist/percussionist/composer **Yosvany Terry** and French pianist **Baptiste Trotignon** present a unique and exciting program inspired by the rich and diverse musical traditions that emerged from the African Diaspora in the United States and former French colonies in the Americas.

Named **Ancestral Memories**, the project captures the rhythms, melodies, and harmonies of the Caribbean, New Orleans and French Louisiana, re-imagined through 21<sup>st</sup> century aesthetics and a jazz sensibility. The ensemble also features the extraordinary rhythm section of Terry's brother, bassist **Yunior Terry**, and drummer **Clarence Penn**. **Ancestral Memories'** eponymously titled debut album was released in October 2017 on OKeh/Sony Records.

Nominated for a Grammy for Best Latin Jazz Album, Yosvany Terry's previous album **New Throned King** (5Passion, 2014) was based on a similar concept and seamlessly blended modern jazz with the ceremonial music of the West African and Cuban Arara culture.

(press quotes on page 2)

## ANCESTRAL MEMORIES | PRESS QUOTES

“Mr. Terry, a deft and blistering alto saxophonist hailing from Cuba, recently partnered with Mr. Trotignon, a French pianist of rippling sensitivity. The result was “Ancestral Memories,” an engaging album that explores the African diaspora through the lens of French colonial incursion. Mellifluous and buoyant, these tunes dance with a well-plotted grace.” —**Giovanni Russonello, The New York Times**

“The notion of diaspora rings clearly throughout Ancestral Memories, a new album from the Cuban-born saxophonist and percussionist Yosvany Terry and the Parisian pianist-composer Baptiste Trotignon. It’s a successful outcome of transatlantic cultural exchange, and a persuasive statement about the borders that can be elided with the tools of postbop modernism.” —**Nate Chinen, WBGO.org**

“Cuba meets France via Haiti and West Africa as two formidable 40-ish world musicians encounter, align their influences, cross metaphorical épées and make sparks fly. Camaguey-born saxophonist Yosvany Terry and Paris-based pianist Baptiste Trotignon parlay polymath musical interests in this cross-cultural project, as thoughtfully researched and collaborated as it is daring and delightful. The outcome is a brain-rattling potpourri that entices with its suavity, charm and complexity. Both protagonists pack drama and daring polyrhythms into their tunes and sparkling intelligence, humor and energy into their improvisations.” —**Fred Bouchard, New York City Jazz Record**