



JAMES

DANTON



MASSIAH STREET MUSIC

Parminder Vir OBE BLACK & ETHNIC ARTS ARCHIVE
GLC
1981-1986
Working for London
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JAMES DANTON is the complete musician. An opinion shared by many. Certainly the most exciting Alto Saxophonist since Charlie Parker. He sings, plays many instruments, composes, arranges and is a poet in his own right. He is interested in all sounds from rock to Beethoven, although his roots have always been deep in Jazz.

As a youngster James started playing both Guitar and Saxophone, attempting to model his style to that of Charlie Parker who was his idol. He was performing his own compositions in the Caribbean before entering his teens. In the early sixties James studied music at 'Kneller Hall' London - specialization : Saxophone and Acoustic Guitar.

During the sixties James was lead Singer/Saxophonist in the Jazz Rock group 'The Mutineers'. The Group was heavily booked onto the lucrative Far Eastern night - club circuit and toured extensively in that area with success, they disbanded after the loss of their main equipment. After the split - up of the group James was offered a contract by record producer Paul Sandburg. In 1971 he returned to Europe to live and work. He was contracted by to Robert Stigwood Organisation in 1972 where he was composing and arranging until 1973 when he asked to be released in order to project himself as a solo artist.

After a considerable amount of research in Saxophone, James has invented and developed the 'PERFECT EMBOUCHURE', this new method eliminates involuntary squeaks and wheezy sounds, adds new dimensions to the instrument, enables the soloist a smoother and more lyrical approach, and gives the saxophone a strong claim for membership of the Classical Orchestra. James shows his P.E. technique in the soundtrack of the B.B.C. TV film 'Black Feet in the Snow' 1974 for which he also composed and arranged the music. The film 'Babylon' and hundreds of recording sessions for many top recording artists; it is usually known that if Danton injects one of his breathtaking solos on a record, the commercial value increases tenfold.

James is currently working on the music for the Jazz Rock Opera 'Have you seen my Brother' and making preparations for a world tour with his band. His ultimate ambition is to play the part of Charlie Parker in a film about the great musician. He thinks that he is the heir apparent for this role.

John Timberly



James has taken the Alto Sax from being a mere back-up or a simple solo instrument to becoming the closest thing to the flexibility of the singing voice...

THE MEDIA'S CHOICE

'James Danton is the most advanced Saxophonist on Earth - possibly the greatest improviser alive today'

LAGOS WEEKEND

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Parminde Vir OBE BLACK & ETHNIC ARTS ARCHIVE

B.B.C. TV Film- 'The score has been arranged by Alto saxist James Danton who is also a singer, composer, poet and guitarist'

MELODY MAKER

'James Danton is the complete musician'

WEST INDIAN WORLD

'The music (for the B.B.C. TV film 'Black Feet in the Snow') was much more accomplished than the acting'.

SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

'Only once in a lifetime genius comes as real and as talented as James Danton; I know what I am talking about, I have been dealing with talented people from all parts of the world for the past twenty five years, not since Charlie 'Bird' Parker have we heard or seen such a great saxophonist. I think it is our binding duty (we the media) to bring to the fore and expose without any let or hindrance any true genius to the world'.

Alex Pedro HPP NIGERIAN TELEVISION

'After a breathtaking performance in concert at the world festival in Lagos Nigeria FESTAC 77 - ' He executed riffs and runs at lightning speed with clarity and dexterity of the master himself - Charlie Parker'.

LAGOS WEEKEND

JAMES DANTON - the first man to develop the perfect Embouchure. To elaborate, this means that while playing his Alto Saxophone he can reproduce the sound of other Woodwind, Brass or stringed instruments; he can also bend notes, which means James has taken the Alto Saxophone from being a mere back - up instrument or simple solo instrument to becoming the closest thing to the flexibility of the singing voice. No other saxophonist has been able to do such a thing before.

Segun Nazette DAILY TIMES

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