

SAXOPHONIST, COMPOSER,  
ARRANGER, EDUCATOR

NYC

2025

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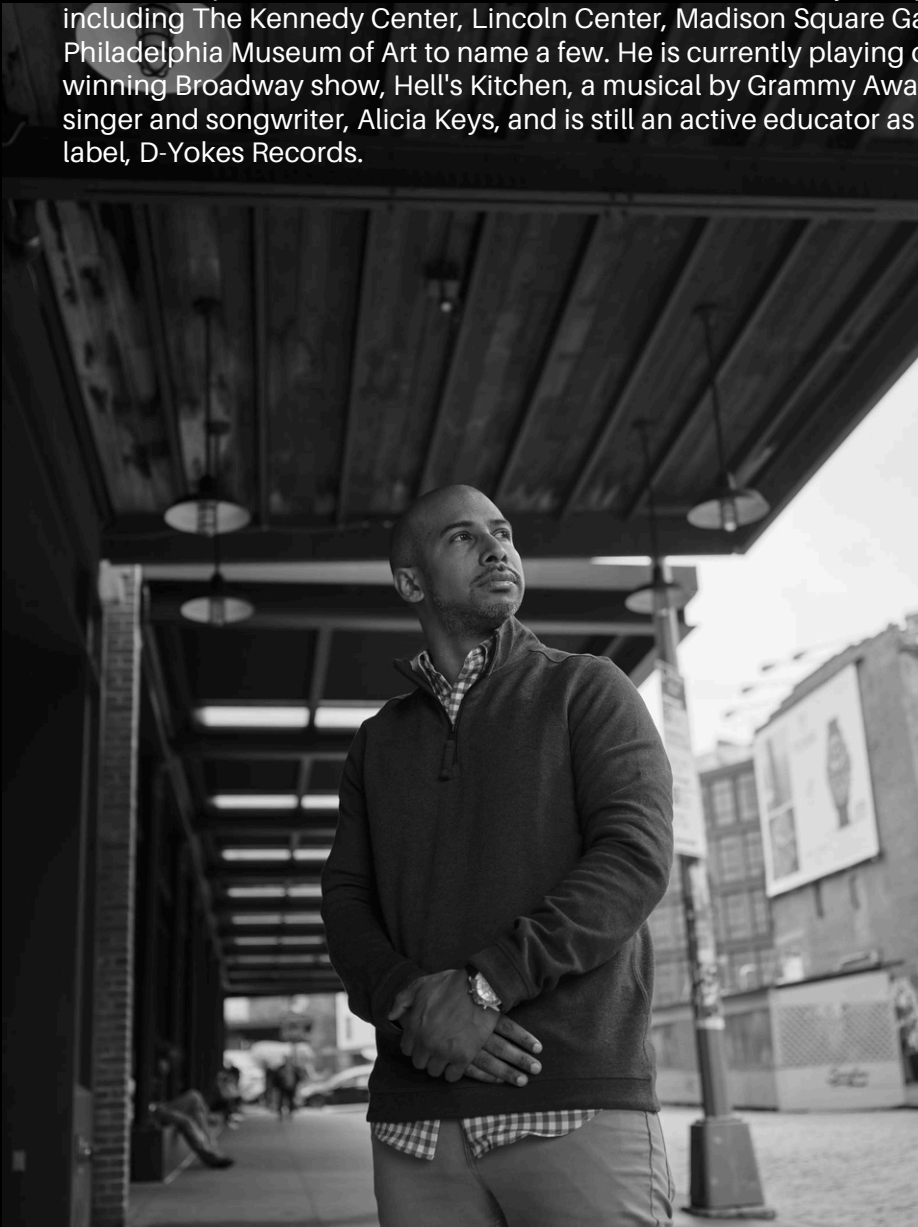
DARRYL  
YOKLEY



# ABOUT

## DARRYL YOKLEY

Grammy award winning saxophonist Darryl Yokley came to New York in 2009 and has established himself as a unique artist who is always looking to connect with audiences. The son of an African-American father and a first generation Mexican mother, he relishes his diverse background and has developed a love for learning about and embracing the myriad of cultures around the world. Performing both classical and jazz has allowed Yokley the opportunity to perform in a number of musical contexts. He has performed for musical legend Quincy Jones as well as motown legends The Four Tops, The Temptations, The O' Jays and singer-songwriter Rhonda Ross, Eddie Palmieri, Sean Jones, Orrin Evans, Nasheet Waits, Ralph Peterson, Jack Walrath, Frank Lacy, Valery Ponomarev, Broadway sensations Brandon Victor Dixon and Dez Duron and his own band, Sound Reformation. His most recent recording *Un Mundo En Soledad* was released on November 1st, 2024 in homage to Nobel prize winning author Gabriel García Márquez's work, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. Darryl has performed all over the world including The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Madison Square Garden, Wolf Trap, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art to name a few. He is currently playing on the Tony and Grammy Award winning Broadway show, *Hell's Kitchen*, a musical by Grammy Award winning singer and songwriter, Alicia Keys, and is still an active educator as well as runs his own record label, D-Yokes Records.



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## UN MUNDO EN SOLEDAD

Un Mundo en Soledad is saxophonist Darryl Yokley's ambitious concept album inspired by Gabriel García Márquez's One Hundred Years of Solitude.

The project fuses Latin American musical traditions with modern jazz, reflecting Yokley's Mexican-American and African-American heritage.

It is the first album-length Latin-jazz fusion by his group, Sound Reformation.

Occhi Magazine praised Yokley as a masterful saxophonist, songwriter, and arranger.

DownBeat described him as channeling raw emotion through his instrument.

Yokley says his goal is to leave behind a meaningful artistic legacy.

He considers music a tool for positive change, even if it touches just one person.

The band includes pianist Zaccai Curtis (imaginative), bassist Luques Curtis (balanced), drummer Wayne Smith Jr. (the group's engine), and percussionist Little Johnny Rivero (deep rhythmic wisdom).

The album opens with "Un Mundo en Soledad," introducing the fictional world of Macondo.

"Macondo" follows, evoking a dreamlike musical landscape.

"El Pueblo" pays homage to the Colombian vallenato style.

"Melquíades..." features the voice of the novel's narrator, appearing throughout the album.

"Los Matrimonios Malditos" sounds joyful but contains ironic harmonic shifts.

"El Duelo" parallels a novel scene with Colombia's Thousand Days' War.

"Después de la Guerra" explores false post-war optimism and cycles of violence in Latin America.

"Los Gemelos Traviesos" captures confusion and family curses through musical chaos.

"Desaparecieron" references the 1928 Banana Massacre, featuring an Aztec death whistle.

"Remedios la Bella" reflects magical realism through a mystical musical ascent.

"Maldiciones Concéntricos" uses a rondo form to express cyclical history.

"La Profecía Revelada" closes the album with a fast reprise of Macondo's theme, symbolizing destruction.

Yokley developed the project over 20 years, having first read Márquez's novel in high school.

He re-read it repeatedly, letting it shape his composition and narrative vision.

Each track is tied to a literary or historical moment, told through musical storytelling.

The album blends emotion, intellect, culture, and politics with artistic integrity.

Reading the novel enriches the listening experience, but isn't required to appreciate the music.

Un Mundo en Soledad stands as a powerful artistic statement on its own.

It invites deep reflection and emotional connection, whether or not the listener knows Márquez.

The album resonates with timeless themes of solitude, memory, and cyclical fate.

It is, ultimately, a unique fusion of literature and music — and a deeply personal legacy.





# UN MUNDO EN SOLEDAD



2025

New Album Un Mundo En Soledad With Pianist Zaccai Curtis, Bassist Luques Curtis, Drummer Wayne Smith Jr., and legendary Latin Percussionist Little Johnny Rivero as a special guest.

## MEDIAS



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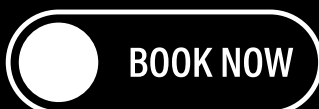
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