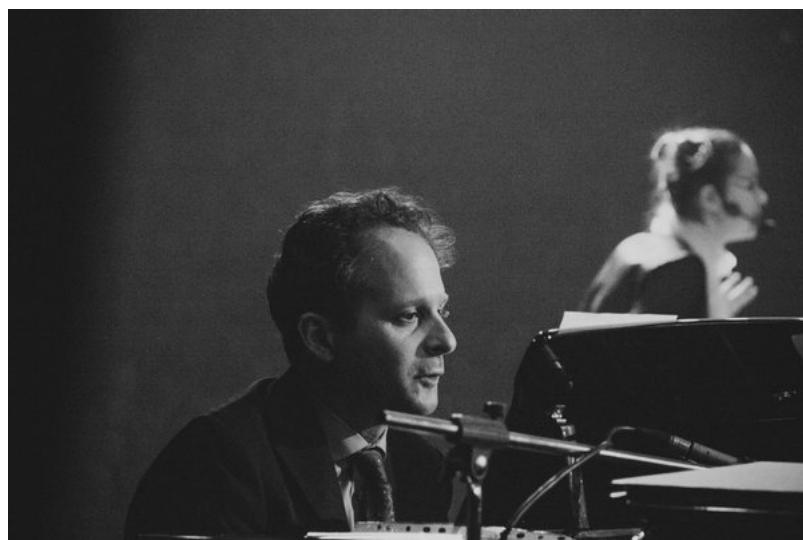


[HOME](#) / [DIALOG](#) / [PERSON](#) /

ELI YAMIN: "I'M LOOKING FOR A UNIVERSAL SOUL MUSIC"

November 22, 2016

LAST SATURDAY, THE PREMIERE OF THE MUSICAL ON THE STAGE OF "URAL" CULTURE CENTER "MESSAGE OF SATURN", WRITTEN BY AMERICAN JAZZ PIANIST AND TEACHER ELI YAMIN. ELI - ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION «JAZZ DRAMA PROGRAM», IN WHICH CONDUCTS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES. ON THE EVE OF THE PREMIERE, WE TALKED A BIT ABOUT THE MUSICIAN, BASS, HARMONY AND MELODY FIRE.

eleven

- Tell me, how is it that you have put a musical in Yekaterinburg?

- Initially, I was just invited to hold master classes at the Children's Music School №1. But I decided that Ekaterinburg - the right place to put my musical, because here are concentrated remarkable performing resources. I made sure that the students in this city - outstanding actors. They not only possess excellent theatrical, musical and dancing skills, they still have a ton of passion and desire to create. And I like the fact that one of the schools involved in the formulation, called "Art Constellation" is in good agreement with our space odyssey.

- Where did the space theme?

- I once heard a story about how Sun Ra came to rehearsal and told his musicians: "I just got a message from Saturn! We are too small to play the blues!" I thought about it for ten years, and eventually co-authored by Clifford Carlson we have done to these musical motives.



- What exactly this musical?

- Three earth child receive the same message from outer space that was Sun Ra. They are invited to go into intergalactic journey, which aims - to find out what the blues, from which it is made. They learn about the bit of bass, harmony and melody of the fire. Finally, our heroes are back in the night sky above the Earth, and at that moment, when the galaxy is about to freeze, they write a healing song that all saves. In this song they summarize everything we have learned in his journey.

- That is, it is a musical training?

- This musical training, it's entertaining musical, but I also want to believe that he has the artistic and even philosophical component. We learn not only about what the blues, but also why it exists. We're playing the blues in order to get rid of the sadness (*untranslatable pun: we -play blues to the get rid of the blues - Ed.*).

- Where did you get such an understanding of the blues?

- My teacher Walter Perkins was a famous drummer and played with many of the founders of the blues - with Muddy Waters, for example. He gave me a deeper understanding of the blues. He taught me the beautiful shuffle rhythm and especially the "upbeat" vocals. I tried to share all this music "Message of Saturn."



- In what other country could you put the "Message of Saturn?"

- This is the first musical production outside the United States. The main theme - «Healing Song» - I played with his quartet in many countries and in many languages.

- How quickly children Ekaterinburg Smalley imbued with this style?

- A lot of work has been done by teachers before I came. Also I admire the commitment and dedication of director Tatyana Levina and choreographer Christina Pantykin - they have done a great deal of research to ensure that everything that happens onstage in line with the style of blues.



- And what blues artists advise to listen to those who are not familiar with this style?
- Howlin 'Wolf. BB King - «Three O'Clock Blues». «When the Levee Breaks» by Memphis Minnie.
- Wait, is not that a song of Led Zeppelin?
- They played it, but the authors - Minnie and Joe McCoy. So, what else is there - «Walking Blues» Robert Johnson. Victoria Spivey. Blind Lemon Jefferson. Ray Charles ...
- And besides blues anything listening?
- Indian stew. I'm also very interested in American folk music. And the folk music from around the world. For example, the other day I heard a wonderful song, which is sung «Aliosha, Aliosha ...» And one of the performances together with my quartet sang other Russian folk song - «Katiusha», which is compatible with classic American blues. I'm looking for the universal soul of the music, which will unite all countries.



Author: Dmitry Hanchin

Photo: Tatiana Douksha

[Eli Yamin Cultural Centre Ural Message Saturn music blues jazz musical](#)



