

**NOUVEAUTÉ : : NEW ALBUM**

SORTIE : : 05 / 2017 : : RELEASE

**Janis Steprans**



**Ajivtal**

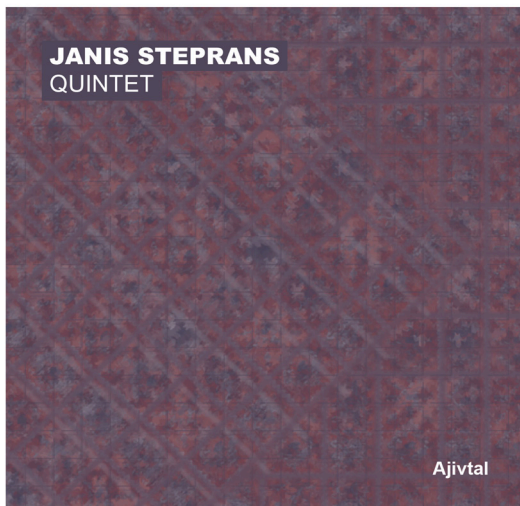
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ARTIST	JANIS STEPRANS	F N D 1 4 5
TITLE	AJIVTAL	
STYLE	JAZZ	
RELEASE	05 / 2017	



#### TRACKLISTING

01. SHADES OF WHITE
02. LUNA'S TUNE
03. AJIVTAL
04. REBIRTH
05. CHAMBRE N 5
06. ONE FOR VEDADY O
07. SUITE DE THÈMES LETTONS
08. THAT OLE DEVIL CALLED LOVE
09. UN AUTRE SIGNAL

#### MUSICIENS - MUSICIANS

JANIS STEPRANS - SAXS & CL , GABRIEL HAMEL - GT, GEOFF LAPP - PN, ADRIAN VEDADY - BS, ANDRE WHITE & KENTON MAIL - DRS

#### COMPOSITIONS

JANIS STEPRANS

#### Ajivtal

L'oeuvre qui donne son nom à cet album s'inspire d'une composition célèbre du saxophoniste Théodore «Sonny» Rollins. Airegin. Ajivtal est le nom du pays de mes ancêtres. Latvija, écrit à l'envers.

La pièce est construite autour d'un motif musical imaginé auparavant, motif à caractère exotique évoquant les musiques russe, moyen-orientale et juive. Pendant l'écriture de cette pièce, je réfléchissais sur mes propres origines et la façon dont elles influencent ma musique. J'espère que Ajivtal ainsi que les autres pièces de cet album vous plairont.

#### Ajivtal

The work that gives its name to this album is inspired by a famous composition of the saxophonist Theodore «Sonny» Rollins. Airegin. Ajivtal is the name of the country of my ancestors. Latvija, written upside down.

The piece is built around a previously imagined musical motif, an exotic motif evoking Russian, Middle Eastern and Jewish music. While writing this piece, I was reflecting on my own origins and how they influence my music. I hope that Ajivtal and the other parts of this album will please you.

- Janis Steprans

#### JANIS STEPRANS

- Saxophonist, composer and educator Janis Steprans was born in Montreal in 1958. He starting playing the alto saxophone in high school. Later, he studied at McGill University with Gerry Danovitch and played in the big band, combos and saxophone quartets there, managing to win the concerto competition in 1975. Janis attended the New England Conservatory between 1982 and 1984, studying with Joe Allard. While a student at NEC, Janis played in a concert of George Russell's Living Time Orchestra.

During the 80's and 90's, Janis played jazz in the various clubs that existed around Montreal. He was a member of Vic Vogel's big band as well some of his small groups which were active at that time. He also performed with Quebec jazz musicians such as Oliver Jones, Charles Biddle, Dave Turner, Charles Ellison, Rane Lee, Kevin Dean, Andre White and Denis Christianson, as well as playing in Joe Sullivan's big band later on. As a participant in numerous projects recorded by the CBC and Radio-Canada (often as part of the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal (FIJM), Janis has accompanied international jazz artists such as Paquito d'Rivera, John Pizzarelli, Randy Brecker, The Count Basie Orchestra, Michel Legrand, Slide Hampton and Dizzy Gillespie.

Janis' jazz quartet has made a number of appearances at the FIJM. As a saxophonist, he has played on numerous occasions with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and once with the National Arts Orchestra in Ottawa. In 2000, he was chosen by Radio-Canada as Quebec's member of the European Broadcast Union Jazz Orchestra, which was based that year in Bergen, Norway. Janis has led groups at the Off Festival de Jazz de Montréal as well as for the Calgary Jazz Is Society, and at the World Saxophone Congress. He also performed as clarinetist in the Dave Brubeck Octet at the 2008 edition of the FIJM.

Janis has recorded four solo cd's under his own name. A fifth one, featuring Andre White on drums, Kenny Bibace, guitar and Adrian Vedaday on bass, is due to be released in the spring of 2013. Janis is an associate professor of jazz studies at Université Laval, in Quebec, Canada, a position he has held since 2004. His duties there include teaching jazz saxophone, jazz history and directing the FamulJazz big band.

WEB SITE : <http://www.janissteprans.com>