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# Imagery Converter Album Press Kit

## Band

### Imagery Converter

#### Band short Bio

When forming this band, Javier, Jake, Gustavo, and Ben put their usual musical abilities aside. The music invited a different set of assumptions and insights to be discovered, manifested, and woven into the band's sound. The result is a music that is intuitive but also, seductively puzzling. As Javier stated: "it is like re-discovering musical intuition". That is what makes listening to this band so exciting. The band has been performing within Chicago and Midwest jazz venues having a very positive reception from the audience.



## Personnel

Javier Red; Piano

Jake Wark; Tenor Sax

Gustavo Cortiñas; Drums

Ben Dillinger; Bass

## Social Media and Additional Material

[Facebook](#)

[Youtube Channel](#)

[Photos](#)

[Webpage](#)

[Email contact](#)

## Album Info

### Album Title

Javier Red's Imagery Converter; Ephemeral Certainties



### Release Date

August 2019

### Album Bio

The new album, *Ephemeral Certainties* -featuring Javier Red (piano), Jake Wark (tenor saxophone), Gustavo Cortinas (Drums) and Ben Dillinger (Bass)- is a strong collective statement of the band's arrival. The music ranges from the earthy and physical "*Stretched Particle*" to the introspective and reflective "*Suspension*". With strong and mysterious rhythmic hooks, this album fully engages the listener's imagination and attention. Within the band, "a strong natural musicality is always there, while also maintaining a draw of the enigmatic", Javier said. The album will be released this Summer 2019 with Delmark Records.

## Tracks:

1. Minimal Pieces
2. Minimal Expansion
3. Recognizable Elements
4. Stretched Particle
5. Suspension
6. Balancing Fragments
7. Cycles
8. Saturation

## Album details:

- Produced by Javier Red
- Executive Producers Elbio Barilari & Julia A. Miller
- Recorded at Electrical Audio by Studiomedia Recording in August 15th, 2018.
- Mixed at Studiomedia Recording
- Mastered at Riverside Studio
- Cover art by Marcos Raya
- Photos by Paul Crisanti
- Package design Al Brandtner

## Band Members Bios

### Javier Red:



Javier was born and raised in Mexico City, and in 2015 he moved to Chicago. Although he has had key musical mentors in his career, Javier is mainly self-taught. He believes that music

inspires, connects people with themselves or with each other, and is a never-ending journey of self-discovery, exploration, challenges, creativity, and growth.

In 2001 he founds -together with Jose Gurria (L.A. *Gurrisonic Orchestra*)- Ethos Trio, with whom they were enrolled in several international performances, such as the International Festival *Meet in Beijing* in China, and the Washington Kennedy Center *Celebrating Mexico* among others. They also frequently had Michael Caldwell (California State University senior faculty fellow) as a special guest with whom they performed in Mexico and USA.

He was part of *Papabetos*; Mexican Big Band, with featured invited artists such as Kiyoshi Kitagawa in the bass.

In 2006 he met Matt Davis (NY based Guitar player & Manhattan School of Music guitar faculty member). They started creating and presenting their music in New York, Philadelphia and Mexico City, recording a Duo Album *En Nuestros Viajes*, which was ranked as one of the best 2011 Albums by *Tome to the Weather Machine*.

He has played in some of the most important venues in Mexico, such as Palacio de Bellas Artes and CENART, as well as important venues around the world such as Beijing Haidan Centre, Washington Kennedy Center, and Notre Dame University DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

He has been invited for multiple festivals such as Eurojazz, Festival Cervantino, Havana-Cuba Jazz Festival, and Lima Jazz Festival among others. His Chicago-based band *Imagery converter* has performed in several Chicago and Midwest Jazz venues, been very well received. In 2019 they will release their first album *Ephemeral Certainties* with the iconic Chicago label Delmark.

*Outstanding Musician...*

(Antonio Malacara, *La Jornada Mexico*)

*Awesome soloing skills...*

(Crawford Phileo, *Tome to the Weather Machine, US*)

*Full sound....*

(Mark Sullivan *All About Jazz, US*)

## Jake Wark:



Jake Wark is a saxophonist, composer, and improviser based in Chicago. Jake was born and raised in Rochester, New York, where he resided until completing his undergraduate studies at Nazareth College. Upon moving to Chicago in 2014 to pursue a graduate degree in music at DePaul University, he quickly became immersed in the city's vibrant improvised music scene. Jake can be regularly heard with his own quartet and as a collaborator in Four Letter Words, Bowlcut, and Javier Red's Imagery Converter. Jake has appeared as a bandleader and collaborator at many prominent venues and festivals across the northeast and midwest, including the Chicago Jazz Festival, Constellation, The Green Mill, Elastic Arts, The Hungry Brain, The Bop Stop, The Jazz Showcase, and the Rochester Fringe Festival.

*"Fullness and projection.."*  
(Bud Kopman All about Jazz)

## Ben Dillinger:



Ben Dillinger is a bass player born and based in Chicago. He completed his undergraduate studies at Roosevelt University and pursued a graduate degree in music at DePaul University. Ben can be regularly heard with Jake Wark's quartet, Kyle Madsen's trio, Astro Samurai band, and Javier Red's Imagery Converter. Ben has performed at many prominent Chicago venues, including the Constellation, The Green Mill, Elastic Arts, Tonic Room and The Hungry Brain, among others.

## Gustavo Cortiñas:



A graduate of Loyola University New Orleans (BM Jazz, Minor in Philosophy, Magna Cum Laude, 2011), and Northwestern University (MM Jazz, 2013), Gustavo Cortiñas has developed a successful career in the US for over a decade, leading and accompanying ensembles in renowned stages and festivals in North America, Latin America, Asia, and Europe. "Cortiñas'

During his time in Chicago, Gustavo has become one of the most sought out drummers, performing and recording with Kitt Lyles' Real Talk, Erik Skov's Liminality, Imagery Converter, Emily Kuhn's Helios, Roy McGrath Quartet, and the Carla Campopiano Trio, among other ensembles. Cortiñas is a member of the Chicago Jazz Composer's Collective, performing regularly for their monthly residency at Chicago's very own Green Mill. Currently, with a grant from the Mexican National Endowment of the Arts (FONCA), Gustavo is working on his third and most ambitious project as a leader: a musical journey which traces through thirteen compositions, the poetic and tragic history set by Eduardo Galeano in his book: "The Open Veins of Latin America".

*..uplifting, robust, melodic..*  
(Jeff Potter, Downbeat)

*An emerging drummer to watch..*  
(Greg David, Modern Drummer)

*..dynamic performer, agile bandleader and brilliant composer..*  
(Hrayr Attarian, Chicago jazz Magazine)

music is uplifting, robust, melodic, and gets your body moving; it's an exciting blend of the artist's musical influences from jazz and Latin American, including his native Mexico"(DOWNBEAT MAGAZINE). This can be heard on his records as a leader, "Snapshot" (2013), "a Smörgåsbord of the moods and nuances that make up the human experience... an idiosyncratic album that intrinsically fuses the personal to the universal" (Lisette Corsa, Jazziz Magazine); and "ESSE" (Origin Arts 2017): "With the cohesive and captivating Esse, Cortiñas has created superb work that balances refreshingly inventive ideas with high-caliber musicianship. This exquisite and continuously gripping record is a testament to Cortiñas' triple threat of skills as dynamic performer, agile bandleader and brilliant composer." (Hrayr Attarian, Chicago Jazz Magazine).