Ricardo Lafond

Haitian Saxophonist | Composer | Performer
🎤 Based in Florida/Texas | 🎷 Worldwide Availability

Professional Summary

Dynamic and versatile Haitian saxophonist with over a decade of experience performing nationally and internationally. Known for blending **Caribbean rhythms with jazz improvisation**, Ricardo has graced stages from Port-au-Prince to Kazakhstan, collaborating with leading artists and representing Haiti on global platforms. His music reflects a deep commitment to cultural preservation, innovation, and soulful artistry.

Education & Training

- **Self-Taught in Music Theory & Performance** – Foundation in clarinet and saxophone
- **Mentorship:** Studied jazz improvisation and theory under **Thurgot Théodat**, Haitian jazz legend
- **Law & Economics (Academic Background):** Faculty of Law and Economics, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

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Performance Experience

International Appearances

- **Astana Expo 2017 (Kazakhstan)** – Represented Haiti with SMS Kreyol; performed alongside pianist **John Webber**
- **Port-au-Prince International Jazz Festival (2019, 2021)** – Presented the *Haiti-Israel Project* and shared stage with drummer **Yogev Shetrit**

Collaborations

- Shared stages with renowned Haitian artists: **Mikaben, Rutshelle Guillaume, Darline Desca, Bethovas Obas, Skandal, Akoustik Band, Pawol Tambou, Reggae Mapou, Yzarael Reggae**
- International tours with **Johnbern Thomas** (2018–2019)
- Collaborated with Florida-based ensembles including **Blue Stone of Miami** and legendary Haitian musician **Wooly Saint Louis Jean**

Notable Bands & Projects

- Core member of **SMS Kreyol**, a leading Haitian music group recognized for its jazz fusion
- Featured in the 15th edition of the Port-au-Prince International Jazz Festival (2021)

Skills & Strengths

- Expert in saxophone performance (jazz, Caribbean, fusion, reggae, kompa)
- Stage presence & audience engagement
- Arranging & improvisation
- Cross-cultural collaborations
- Bilingual: English, French, Haitian Creole

Awards & Recognition

- International recognition as a **cultural ambassador** for Haiti through music
- Featured performer in prestigious world music and jazz festivals

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Work Samples (to include in portfolio/EPK)

🎶 **Live Performance Videos**

- *Astana Expo 2017 – Ricardo Lafond with SMS Kreyol* (link to YouTube/Vimeo)
- *Port-au-Prince Jazz Festival 2019 – Haiti-Israel Project* (link)
- *Port-au-Prince Jazz Festival 2021 – SMS Kreyol* (link)
- *Live in Miami with Blue Stone* (link)

💿 **Audio Samples**

- Studio recording: *Improvisations on Kompa & Jazz Fusion*
- Collaborative recording with Wooly Saint Louis Jean

📸 **Photo Samples**

- Stage shots from Jazz Festivals
- Portraits/Promotional photography for branding

📰 **Press Mentions & Reviews**

- Highlight articles from Haitian and international media on Ricardo's performances

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Contact

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🌐 Website/EPK link

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