

*Identities*  
**Are Changeable**

Miguel Zenón

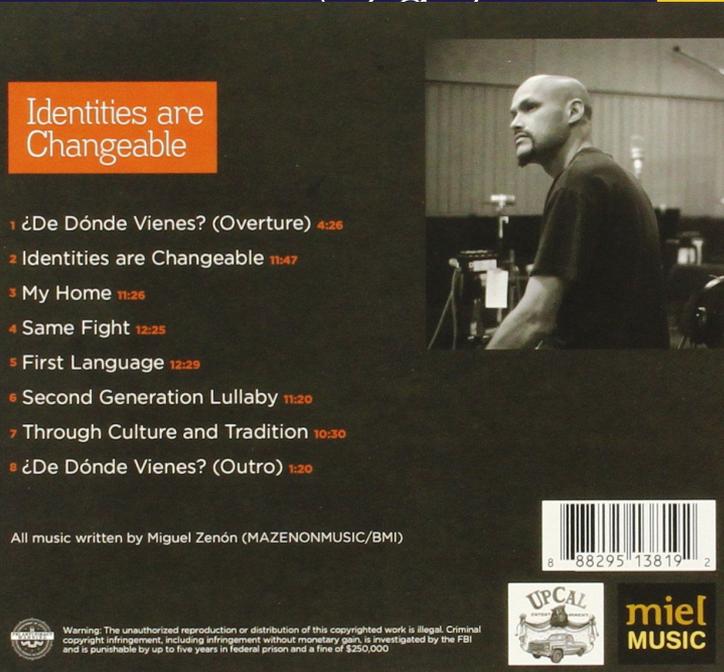
Leann del Rio

# Background Information

- Born on December 30, 1976 in San Juan, Puerto Rico
- Got interested in music at a very young age when he was 10 years old and went to a music school to learn how to play and read music. He wasn't really attracted to the saxophone specifically, it was just what was available to him and the relationship with the instrument grew from there.
- Later on moved to the city of Boston to begin his studies at Berklee College of Music where he studied with fellow future artists such as Antonio Sánchez
- Formed the Miguel Zenón Quartet
- He is a multiple Grammy Award nominee, and the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and a MacArthur Fellowship.

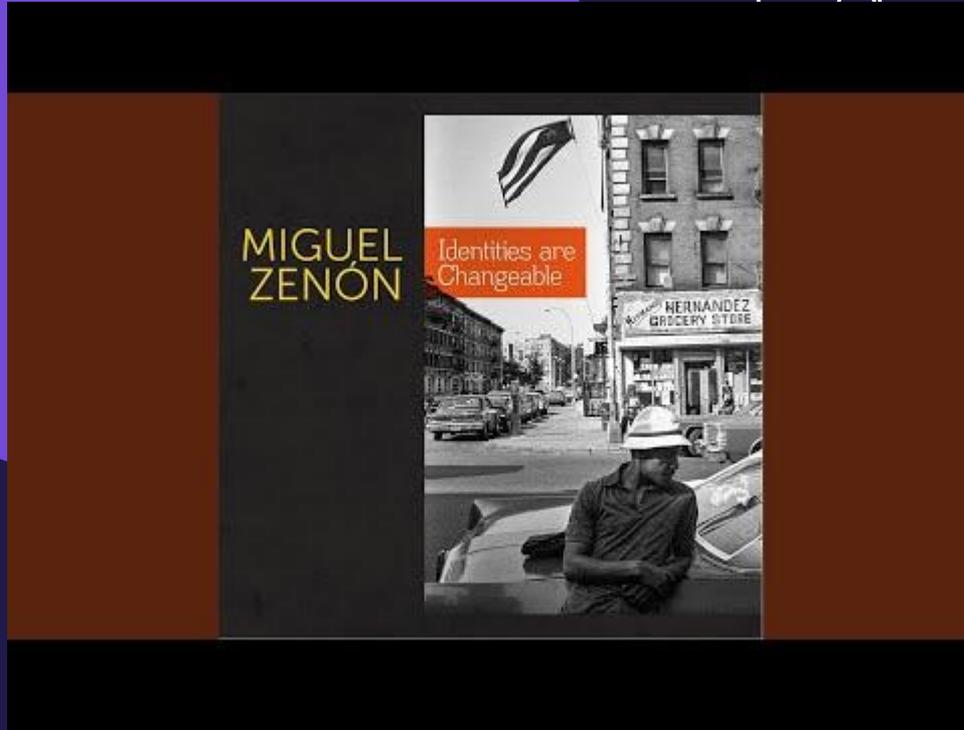


# Behind the Album



- Explores the idea of national identity from the perspective of 2nd and 3rd generation Puerto Ricans who were born in New York City.
- Conducted interviews with people he knew who fit the profile he was looking for. As he continued he was more and more themes that were being touched upon continuously and decided to then write music around the language and culture.
- His experiences differ from the people he interviewed since he was raised in Puerto Rico and later moved to the United States.

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# *Thoughts About The Song*

- What are your reactions to the song?
- Do you like the way the interviews are integrated into the song?
- Would you have liked it more if there were no interviews at all and it was purely instrumental?



# Identities are Changeable



- Wanted to get a new perspective as to what it means to be apart of a different culture.
- The interviews are a central part of the project because he wanted people to have the same experiences he did while he was listening to them speak.
- Overall you can't generalize what a nationality is, shouldn't be a standard bias connected to identity and more specifically national identity.



# Resources

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miguel\\_Zenón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miguel_Zenón)
- <https://miguelzenon.com/bio-discography/>
- <https://necmusic.edu/faculty/miguel-zenon>
- <https://youtu.be/q9l-jfpXeJs>

