

# **RAZOR & TIE**

For Immediate Release

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## **RAZOR & TIE SIGNS NEW YORK'S ACCLAIMED AFRO-CUBAN/FUNK COLLECTIVE YERBA BUENA ANTICIPATED DEBUT ALBUM PRESIDENT ALIEN SET FOR RELEASE APRIL 15**

**“Yerba Buena is one of the most exciting bands to hit the stagnant Latin music scene in years.... ‘Yerba Buena has great sonic textures,’ says [Meshell] Ndegeocello. ‘I have a lot of faith that just like people ‘got’ Jill Scott or Bob Marley, they will be able to handle its originality. Everybody loves home cooking.’ Especially when the herbs are this potent.” – VIBE**

### **Album Features Special Guests: Meshell Ndegeocello, Stic (Dead Prez) & Roy Hargrove**

In summer 2002, Yerba Buena - the New York afro-cuban/funk collective led by acclaimed producer Andres Levin – was embraced by both fans and critics who were captivated by the recently formed group’s innovative live show. Whether opening arena dates for the Dave Matthews band or playing multiple summer festival dates such as Central Park Summerstage, The Hollywood Bowl or The Newport Jazz Festival, Yerba Buena unleashed a new sound that the *New York Times* called “a musicologist’s dream”, *The Los Angeles Times* decreed “the vanguard of Latin music from New York” and *The Village Voice* may have summed up best in saying: “Yerba Buena prescribes massive doses of Afro-Cuban beatdowns that massage the soul and blister the feet.”

Now, with the summer concert/festival season just around the corner, Yerba Buena bring this uniquely New York fusion of Latin music, African rhythm, hip-hop & funk to record. Following his critically praised work as principal producer of the recent *Red Hot + Riot* Fela Kuti tribute (Top 10 in *NY Times*, *Time Magazine*, *Rolling Stone* & more), Levin assembled Yerba Buena in the studio to lay down their highly anticipated debut. The astounding sessions have resulted in *President Alien* (Razor & Tie/Fun Machine), which is set for release on April 15. Written & produced by Levin, *President Alien* also showcases the inventive fusion of sounds and culture brought by principal vocalist Xiomara Laugart, percussionist Pedrito Martinez, the St. Thomas-born horn duo of Ron Blake (Saxophone, Flute) & Rashawn Ross (Trumpet, Vocals) and vocalists CuCu Diamantes & "El Chino". The album also features contributions from several special guests: Meshell Ndegeocello, Stic (of Dead Prez), Roy Hargrove, Carlinhos Brown and Money Mark. Look for details shortly on upcoming Yerba Buena concert dates.



For more information on Yerba Buena, please contact Sarah Weinstein Dennison at Razor & Tie Media Relations tel 212-596-2202 [sweinstein@razorandtie.com](mailto:sweinstein@razorandtie.com) or John Reilly at Rogers & Cowan at 212.445.8440 / [jreilly@rogersandcowan.com](mailto:jreilly@rogersandcowan.com) or Robert Sasso at 212.445.8424 [rsasso@rogersandcowan.com](mailto:rsasso@rogersandcowan.com)