

Pepe González started his music career playing the electric bass in his late teens, when he formed one of the first integrated bands (between African-Americans and Hispanics) in the Washington, DC area. The band, ZAPATA, opened for many great bands such as Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock, Ramsey Lewis, Weather Report, Rashan Roland Kirk, Sly and the Family Stone, and the Isley Brothers. ZAPATA became one of the top bands in the Mid-Atlantic region, receiving great acclaim by the media and the audience alike.

Performing largely within the jazz idiom, Pepe has had the pleasure performing and recording with many national and international icons such as, Pepper Adams, Clifford Jordan, Slide Hampton, Dave Valentin, Bryon Morris, Hilton Ruiz, Paul Hawkins, Jeannie Bryson, Sheila Jordan, Dorothy Donegan, Carter Jefferson, Clark Terry, Malachi Thompson, Bill Hardman, Junior Cook, Giacomo Gates, Delfaeyo Marsalis, Horacio Icasto, and many others.

Pepe has performed for U.S. Presidents George Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, the United Nation President Kofi Annan, and Vice President Al Gore. He has played at the (IAJE) International Association of Jazz Educators, the Blue Note and the Jazz Times Convention all in New York City. He has played the Caribbean, Spain, France, Greece, Italy and the Soviet Union. Festivals include Curacao Jazz Festival, San Remo Festival, East Coast Jazz Festivals II thru X, Syracuse Jazz Festival, Atlanta Jazz Festival, San Antonio Jazz Festival, Harrisburg Jazz Festival, and the Cape May Festivals 1996 – 98 and 2000.