

OUT OF THE BLUE(S)



Dick De Graaf

Andrea Pozza

Marc Buronfosse

André Charlier

Out Of The Blue(s) is a project by four jazz musicians from Italy, France and the Netherlands who share their love for the tradition of European classical music.

We want to express our view on the close relationships between these two art forms.

Inspired by themes of famous European composers like Beethoven, Schubert, Bartok, Fauré, Poulenc, Debussy and Puccini we re-arrange their music and treat them like jazz tunes.

Although we are very much aiming to create a new sound, we treat both musical traditions with due respect.

Other ideas that come to our minds is to having classical soloists (singers and instrumentalists) and chamber music ensembles joining our program, performing the original music by the composers mentioned above, before we play our versions of the tunes. We might even invite them to improvise with us...

To translate our ideas into music we need a place to rehearse and record and some time to develop our group sound. Also to meet important people in the music business who share our believe in this project.

Dick de Graaf and Andrea Pozza have a previous experience with a similar project concerning "only" the music of Franz Schubert that was released on a live CD.

We were happy about the musical results and from that time on we developed the idea of increasing the musical range of the project and to obtain a better visibility in the international music scene. With Marc Buronfosse and André Charlier we think to have found the right line-up to start working on this!

Following curriculums of the musicians:

Dick de Graaf saxophonist, composer and producer

Tenor-and soprano-saxophonist Dick de Graaf debuted 1986 with his acclaimed LP **'Hot, hazy and humid' (Limetree Records)**. Before he had already won the Dutch Jazz Competition and he had played an important role as a soloist in a.o. the Amstel Octet and in the big bands led by John Clayton and Frank Grasso.

Dick has performed at many national and international jazzstages ever since. He played with a.o. Chet Baker, Misha Mengelberg, Jasper van 't Hof, Kenny Weeler, Tom Harrell, Benny Golson, Billy Hart, Toumani Diabaté and Erkan Ogur and toured festivals and clubs in Europe, South and West Africa, the USA, Japan, Indonesia, New Zealand, USA and Canada.

As a bandleader, composer, arranger and self-managing artist dedicated to jazz as a host of elements from all kinds of music that surrounds us, Dick de Graaf recorded a dozen CD's that received positive response by both public and press. His CD's **'Sailing'** and **'New York Straight Ahead'** got enthusiast critics in the important music magazine Down Beat.

His project **'The Burning of the Midnight Lamp: Dick de Graaf plays Jimi Hendrix'** appeared to be very succesful. With his Dick de Graaf Septet he has been drawing full houses in Holland, Germany, Austria, Ireland and Finland.

Another example of his broad musical horizon is the project he recorded in Mali with a group of young musicians from Bamako: the CD **'Djigui: les Sofas de Bamako featuring Dick de Graaf'**. June 2000 this group made his European debut during the Festival Mundial 2000 in Tilburg. On his hybrid superaudio CD **'Four Winds'** he continues his tracking of multicultural music. On this CD a sextet with a.o. Inga Juuso (Samiland), Moussa Diallo and Mamadou Diabaté (Mali) play a handful of Dick's originals.

2001 Dick released his internationally acclaimed album **SOUND ROOTS Dick de Graaf meets Peter Martin, Roland Guerin and Adonis Rose Trio in New Orleans**. A-records (AL 73222). To promote this record he started his European SOUNDROOTS quartet and toured Europe, Indonesia and Singapore.

In June 2003 the CD **SCHUBERT IMPRESSIONS FOR JAZZ QUINTET** was released on the swiss DiVox label at the Northsea Jazz Festival followed by a substantial series of concerts. Following his Schubert Impressions, Dick presented another jazz-meets-classic project **A TOUCH OF BELA**. in Hungary during the Esztergom Bela Bartok Festival with the Robi Lakatos Trio, July 2005.

Among his recent projects are **Trio Nuevo: Jazz Meets Tango** (2006 CD Soundroots Records 01) and his new **Dick de Graaf Quartet** (2007 CD **Moving Target** Soundroots Records 02). In corporation with Kalan Records in Istanbul he also produced the CD **Istanbul Connection** (with a.o. guitar virtuoso Erkan Ogur) recently.

Dick de Graaf is a part-time teacher of saxophone and ensembles at the jazz department of the well-known Rotterdams Conservatorium. He is an endorser and clinician of Keilwerth saxophones ever since 1994 and Rico Jazz Select saxophone reeds.

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Andrea Pozza pianist, composer

Born in Genoa Italy Andrea Pozza started playing at a very young age dedicating himself at the same time to jazz and classical music.

At the age of only 13 he made his debut at the Louisiana Jazz Club in Genoa. From that time on he began an intense concert activity which gave him the opportunity to co-operate with famous American musicians both in jazz clubs and in international Jazz Festivals.

At the age of 16, from 1981 to 1985, he was part of the CEE "EUROJAZZ" "THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY YOUTH JAZZ ORCHESTRA" playing in many European capitals including London, Bruxelles, Rome.

In 1985 Andrea Pozza took part in the Italian "JAZZ CUP" with his TRIO on RAI UNO in a series of live broadcasting. He won The RAI contest as "best pianist", among all young European participants, for the creation of a New Talents' Orchestra for persons under 25.

He won the first prize for the "best jazz composition" in a contest announced by SIAE in 1992.

In the last years he was in tour with the STEVE GROSSMAN QUARTET in PARIS at the "TEATRE DE LA VILLE JAZZ FESTIVAL" and in LONDON at the "RONNIE SCOTT' S JAZZ CLUB".

He cooperated in ROME and GENOA with the GEORGE COLEMAN QUARTET.

He played at the jazz festivals of NICE and JUAN LES PINS.

In the last years he did some "two pianos" concerts with Dado Moroni .

Recently Andrea is touring with the Dick DeGraaf (tenor) Quartet and they had an important tour in Indonesia (march 2002) and in Europe (Holland, Switzerland ,Luxembourg and Holland) The quartet played at the North Sea Jazz Festival 2003 presenting the new cd of the quartet "Shubert Impressions for Jazz Quintet".

He recorded in 2003 his first trio cd "INTRODUCING" with Luciano Milanese (bs)and Stefano Bagnoli (dr) (Philology).

Since the 2004 is the pianist of the Enrico Rava Quintet with whom he performed in very important festivals around the world (Paris Jazz Champ Floreal, Umbria Jazz 2004,2005 and 2006, Montreal Jazz Festival,Jazz Baltica 2005, Berlin Jazz Festival 2005, etc) and recorded for ECM a new cd of E. Rava Quintet "The Words and the Days".

In 2005 he recorded His second Trio cd "Plays Ellington,Monk and Himself" recorded live in Ancona for the GOFOUR Records .

Recently he recorded a trio cd in London with Nicola Muresu (bass) and Shane Forbes (drums) for the English Jazz Label of Paul Jolly 33Records (www.33jazz.com) .

He continually cooperate with STEVE GROSSMAN, GIANNI BASSO, ENRICO RAVA, GEORGE ROBERT, FERENC NEMETH, BOB BONISOLO

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Marc Buronfosse, acoustic bass

Born in 1963 in Soissons (France).

After classical guitar studies started at the age of ten, he studied the upright bass in 1982 with Thierry Barbé, first soloist at The Opera de Paris, while achieving studies in sound engineering and musicology.

After receiving a prize at the Conservatoire de Paris XII, he began playing more and more jazz, working with bass players such as Cesarius Alvim, Charlie Haden, Reggie Workman and Henri Texier. He has also worked with symphonic orchestras (Opera de Paris) and chamber music orchestras (tour in Japan with the "Solistes de Versailles").

In June 1991, he obtained a grant from the French Ministry of Culture and studied one year in New York at The New School of Music. During this time he worked regularly with Gary Peacock, Marc Johnson and Mark Dresser. He also met and played with Jimmy Cobb, Steve Kühn, John Abercrombie, Lew Soloff, Jim Hall, Tim Berne, Dave Liebman, and Billy Harper...

In Paris, he plays with Stéphane Guillaume Quartet, René Aubry Septet, Michel El Malem Quartet, Gueorgui Kornazov "Horizons" Quintet, Jacques Loussier Trio...and presently has his own quartet with musicians Benjamin Moussay, Jean Charles Richard and Antoine Banville. He also teaches jazz at the Conservatoire National de Région of Paris.

Recordings :

- Bojan Z Quartet Label Bleu 1994
- Sylvain Kassap Quartet «Quixote» Evidence 1994
- Pascal Bréchet Quintet «Autour de Monk» Accord Accort 1996
- Bojan Z Quartet «Yopla» Label Bleu 1996
- Josetxo Goia Aribé «Aunamendi» Label TX 1996
- Marc Buronfosse Quartet «Reflections» Essonne en Jazz 1996
- Les Tambours de Brazza «Congo Drums» PlayaSound Africa 1996
- Fawzy Al Aiedy «Dounya» Adès 1998
- Fawzy Al Aiedy «Le Paris Bagdad» Buda Music 1999
- Paris Jazz Consort «Escape» Emotions Jazz 2000
- Josetxo Goia Aribé «Herrimina» Nuba Records 2000
- René Aubry «Invités sur la Terre» Hopi Mesa 2001
- Darko Rundek «Ruke» Label Menart 2002
- Nico Morelli Trio «Nico Morelli» Cristal Records 2003
- Josetxo Goia Aribé et Maddi Oihenart «Ilhargi-Min» Metak 2003
- Curl «Inner» La Chaise Bleue 2003
- Stéphane Guillaume «Soul Role» Label O+ Music 2004
- Yorgos Delphis «Greece Peace» Greece, Peace and Music 2004
- Bertrand Renaudin «United Flowers» Quartet, LaBorie 2006
- Catherine Antoine «Illusion» Cristal Records 2006
- Stéphane Guillaume 4tet «Intra Muros» Label O+ Music 2006
- René Aubry «Playtime» Hopi Mesa 2008
- Catherine Antoine «Nature» Label O+ Music 2008
- Gueorgui Kornazov «Horizons» Quintet Label BMC 2008
- Michel El Malem Quartet Fresh Sounds Records 2008

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André Charlier, drums

Born in VERVIERS (Belgium) on June 13th, 1962. André began the drums in 1978. He has studied at the Musician Institute of Los Angeles in 1985-1986.

In 1988-1989, he began a series of tours with the singer Maurane (Belgian singer). At the end of the year of 1989 he was Prizewinner at the Competition of La Defense. In 1991, he is awarded of the Price of Best Soloist at the international competition of French-speaking jazz.

André Charlier has been touring since on the stages of the whole world besides Didier Lockwood (quintet, quartet and trio), and besides the harmonica player Jean-Jacques Milteau (quartet, quintet, septet), drummer of the group of rhythm' blues Captain Mercier.

He notably played with John Scofield, Michel Petrucciani, Scott Henderson, Michel Portal, Toots Thielemans, Philip Catherine ... on the occasion of exceptional concerts. He just recorded two albums with the Jean-Michel Charbonnel quartet with Jean-Michel Charbonnel (Bass), Benoît Sourisse (Piano) and Jerry Bergonzi (Saxophone).

For several years, he has been developing his own music with the duet "CHARLIER-SOURISSE", with which he recorded three CDs :

The first one "Gemini" with Benoît Sourisse (piano, B3), Olivier Ker Ourio (harmonica) and Jerry BERGONZI (saxophone).

The second "Eleven Blues" with Benoît Sourisse (piano, B3), Jean-Marie Ecay (guitar) and Kenny GARRETT (saxophone).

The third one "Heritage" with Benoît Sourisse (piano, B3), Pierre Perchaud (guitar), Stéphane Guillaume (saxophone), Jean-Michel Charbonnel (bass) and Kurt Rosenwinkel (guitar).

André Charlier is ahead of the drums department at the CMDL (Center of Music Didier Lockwood). Sponsored by TAMA drums and PAISTE cymbals.

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