

Paolo Fresu & Rita Marcotulli

Paolo Fresu: trumpet, flugelhorn, effects – Rita Marcotulli: piano, effects -

Although they have known and esteemed each other for a very long time and have often crossed their instruments in different projects, Rita and Paolo had not yet thought of a duo meeting that has all the credentials to fascinate and conquer.

Of course they play "at home." Of course they play on what famous Mediterranean touch that the two know to perfection. Sensitivity, nuance and poetry to be sought in the depths of two great interpreters of contemporary music.

What they have in common is definitely the search for the "beauty" of musical art, sometimes in a simple, direct, acoustic way. Sometimes instead filtered by a pinch of electronics that makes the project trespass into the immense palette of colors of contemporary music.

With well in mind the ability to improvise and conquer unimagined territories.

With well in mind the jazz that made them grow up but especially all that is good music.

A meeting made of grace, sensitivity and emotions. Architected with wisdom and proposed with style and elegance.

No other words are needed. This is a concert of those that serve the head but to let down in the heart.

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PAOLO FRESU

An alternative Biography

Fresu is one of those musicians who come from time to time to remind us why jazz is so special and unique"

(Buenos Aires Herald)

The village marching band and the most important international awards, the Sardinian countryside and the albums, discovering jazz and his many collaborations, his love of small things and Paris. There are not many people capable of putting together such a diverse array of elements and turn it into such an incredible and fast stylistic growth. Paolo Fresu succeeded in a country like Italy where, for too long, jazz was famous just like Shakespeare or Matisse paintings, Armstrong was little more than a freak show and Miles Davis was acknowledged well after his creative peak. The magic lies in the spontaneous way in which he managed to convey the deepest meanings and magic of his native land with the most precious of the arts. At this stage of his successful and long career there is no need to list recordings, awards and experiences that have made Fresu an international star, his music loved by many. Inside his trumpet sound runs the sap that has illuminated the European jazz nouvelle vague, the depth of a thought that doesn't limit itself to music, his generosity that sees him in the right place at the right time and most of all the unending passion that always leads him.

Being an omnivorous artist Paolo is currently busy on many projects. Apart from a literary side which has brought some very interesting works and being honored with the important honoris causa degree in Social Psychology at Università Bicocca of Milano, Italy in 2013, nowadays Fresu is working with his historical quintet which has been together for 35 years of full activity and reciprocal understanding, his Devil quartet, which follows on the success of the Angel quartet that gave Paolo early international exposure some 15 years ago or his new trio with two young lions of contemporary national jazz such as Dino Rubino and Marco Bardoscia.

His contemporary collaborations are also increasing. Some of these include the duo with Uri Caine, teaming up with Carla Bley and Steve Swallow and the successful meeting with Ralph Towner which started Paolo relationship with ECM. ECM released the wonderful album *Mistico Mediterraneo* with Daniele Di Bonaventura and the polyphonic Corsican choir *A Filetta* and the duo record with Di Bonaventura (*In Maggiore*) that live can also become a trio with the collaboration with the famous Brazilian cellist Jaques Morelenbaum.

His present time sees him active, in a more foreign perspective, in a trio with Richard Galliano and the Swedish pianist Jan Lundgren ("*Mare Nostrum*") and in several new adventures with important names of the

contemporary jazz entourage such as Omar Sosa, Trilok Gurtu, Gianluca Petrella and - again - with Lars Danielsson, Eivind Aarset, Chano Dominguez, Oren Marshall or Arild Andersen. Interesting are then the projects with some big names of the Italian literary and theatrical world (Ascanio Celestini, Lella Costa, Stefano Benni, Alessandro Bergonzoni, Giuseppe Battiston), the frequentation of the theatrical world itself as first interpreter thanks to the works produced by the Teatro Stabile di Bolzano among which the great success of the play "Tempo di Chet" (dedicated to Chat Baker) or "Tango Macondo" as well as, finally, a new series of small but important collaborations with the "intelligent" music of the Italian popular bangs or electronics. Music for Cinema and "special projects" such as his extraordinary theatrical "a solo" close the circle together with the little big and crazy adventure that led him to celebrate in 2011 his 50th birthday with 50 concerts, in 50 consecutive days, with 50 different formations and projects from day to day in 50 masterpieces of his Sardinian landscape. Not to be outdone also the beautiful project dedicated to his important 60th birthday, thanks to Bologna that has become, like Paris, one of his places of reference. There are also some interesting collaborations with some great names of the Italian theatre and literature world (Ascanio Celestini, Lella Costa, Stefano Benni, Alessandro Bergonzoni) besides a small new series of collaborations with the 'intelligent' part of Italian popular music. Music for cinema, and special projects like his "a solo" (trumpet solo and electronics) that mesmerized 3000 people at the Rome Auditorium or the Metastasio Theatre in Prato, all of this with the crazy great adventure that brought Paolo in 2001 to celebrate his 50th birthday performing 50 concerts in 50 consecutive days, each with a different line up and each with a different beautiful Sardinian landscape as backdrop. It would be a mistake to neglect the attention towards the classical music world that is generating nice surprises with works that involve orchestral ensemble that manage to look forward and heroes of the avant-garde or also Paolo's new challenge to promote young lions of contemporary jazz through the possibilities offered them by the new label Tük Music, founded to look to the future. In 2020 Tük celebrated his important 10th birthday.

Discover Paolo Fresu's official Youtube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL59WzwyjYD758WMzs0O8Jnd4EJXD5G8is>

Rita Marcotulli

Pianist and Composer studied at the Conservatorio di Santa Cecilia classical music and with Maestro Arnaldo Graziosi and Susanna Spitanlick. She began playing professionally within small groups in the 1970s and later began collaborating with a variety of international artists, to name a few: Jon Christensen, Palle Danielsson, Peter Erskine, Joe Henderson, Hélène La Barrière, Joe Lovano, Charlie Mariano, Marilyn Mazur, Pat Metheny, Sal Nistico, Michel Portal, Enrico Rava, Dewey Redman, Aldo Romano, Kenny Wheeler, Norma Winstone In 1987 she was voted Best New Talent through a poll by Musica Jazz magazine. In 1989 she joined Billy Cobham's group with whom she performed all over the world. In 1992 he joined Dewey Redman's group with whom he collaborated for 15 years playing all over Europe and SouthAmerica. Then he moved to Sweden, collaborating with northern European musicians such as: Palle Danielsson, Marilyn Mazur, Jon Christensen, Niels Petter Moelvar, Anders Jormin, Tore Brumborg. These collaborations, influence and consolidate her way of composing. Back in Italy, she collaborates with Ambrogio Sparagna and Pino Daniele, among others. In 1996 she accompanied Pat Metheny in a performance at the Sanremo Festival. More recently she participated in the making of the film Basilicata Coast to Coast, for which she was responsible for the soundtrack. Thanks to this work, Marcotulli received the Ciak d'oro in 2010, the Nastro d'argento for best soundtrack in the same year, the David di Donatello for best musician in 2011 (the first woman ever to receive this award) and the 2011 Top Jazz Award as the best Italian jazz artist according to Musica Jazz magazine. In February 2013, she is a member of the jury of quality at the 63rd edition of the Sanremo Festival, hosted by Fabio Fazio and Luciana Littizzetto.. In 2017 she was appointed Ambassador of 'Umbria in the world. In 2019, Italian President Sergio Mattarella presented Rita with an honorary award as an Officer of the Republic, and again in 2019 she was nominated as a member of the Royal Academy of Sweden established in 1774 by King Gustavus. Today Marcotulli is a famous pianist and composer. respected for her unique style of sound and ability to improvise. Her source of inspiration is vast and also includes influences from Brazilian, African and Indian music.

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