

## **PAOLO FRESU – DANIELE DI BONAVENTURA**

Paolo Fresu: trumpet, flugelhorn, effects - Daniele di Bonaventura: bandoneon

This is a musical dialogue dedicated to air instruments and to the typical lyricism of Mediterranean flavours. Paolo Fresu e Daniele Di Bonaventura are the protagonists of the successful project "Mistico Mediterraneo" (released also with ECM), produced with the choir *A filetta*, coming from Corsica.

The collaboration between the sardinian trumpeter and the bandoneon player counts a lot of concert; to remember the special one dedicated to Corto Maltese, the famous cartoon character created by Hugo Pratt: this project was recently presented at Palazzo Grassi, in Venice, collecting a big success (critic and public). During that concert – a performance of great effect, characterized by intimacy, modernity and colour – the photographer Pino Ninfa showed a photographic exhibition in real time.

Animated by the attraction to ethnic music, classical and electronic, the two musicians, in 2011, composed «Mistico Mediterraneo», with the vocal ensemble *A Filetta*: the project – released by the prestigious label ECM – is a real charming musical journey, able to wake up ancestral feelings.

This duo is a poetic drawing of that important seminal work. A sort of extrapolation on new base with new music and new emotion.

Thanks to "Mistico Mediterraneo" Fresu and Di Bonaventura improve their meetings and musical material: recently they have recorded new tracks, in duo, released with ECM on "In maggiore" cd.

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**Paolo Fresu  
Daniele di Bonaventura  
*In maggiore***

**Paolo Fresu:** trumpet and flugelhorn; **Daniele di Bonaventura:** bandoneon  
ECM 2412

Through their work in the concerts of *Mistico Mediterraneo*, created together with the celebrated Corsican vocal ensemble *A Filetta* (see ECM 2220), Paolo Fresu and Daniele di Bonaventura discovered a strong creative affinity and have further developed their lyrical musical language in a decade of collaborative projects.

*In maggiore*, recorded in Lugano's Auditorio Stelio Molo in May 2014 and produced by Manfred Eicher, is their first album in duo formation. It explores a more intimate expressive dimension, in which the Sardinian trumpeter and the bandoneonist from Italy's Marche region deploy the poetry of small sounds and gestures, all the more potent in an often noisy and information-saturated time. Their focus is on the colours generated by the breath flowing through the valves of Fresu's horns and vibrating in the reeds of Di Bonaventura's bandoneon. Fresu here renounces the use of electronic effects characteristic of some of his live performances. The detailed Lugano recording emphasizes instead the grain of the sound which incorporates also the sounds of metal struck by Fresu or the rattle of Di Bonaventura's keys as occasional rhythmic accompaniment: audible signs of the physicality of the relationship with the musical instruments.

The story unfolds seamlessly through original compositions, improvisations and melodies that belong to shared musical memory. The echoes of the opening classic cadenza give way to the Breton lullaby which inspired Fresu's "Ton Kozh". Then, the horizon expands with a bittersweet Latin American episode where the melancholy "O Que Sera" by Chico Buarque de Hollanda surprisingly segues into the Chilean resistance song "El Pueblo Unido Jamas serà vencido".

Fresu demonstrates an unerring instinct as an improviser in extracting the kernel of a crucial piece by outlining its melodic contours with a few essential features. Through Brazil, Chile and Uruguay to Jaime Roos's "Se Va La Murga" the repertoire of the duo disc travels - without touching directly upon the Argentine bandoneon tradition which once lured Bonaventura away from his first instrument, the piano. "Te Recuerdo Amanda", a song dedicated to his mother by the murdered Chilean singer-songwriter Victor Jara, has a special meaning for the duo, inextricably linked to the time when they played to an audience of more than 6,000 people who stood in homage to what has become a sort of unofficial national anthem of post-dictatorship Chile.

"Apnea", again by Fresu, counterpoints an album in which "breath" plays a significant role: it's influenced and inspired by the novel by Lorenzo Amurri about a musician's return from a coma, following a terrible ski accident. The tender waltz from Puccini's *Bohème* "Quando m'en vo soletta per la via" leaves the theatre

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before coming back to the ballroom, while “Kyrie” composed by Di Bonaventura reminds us of the solemn atmospheres of *Mistico Mediterraneo*. Fresu’s original tune “In Maggiore”, which gives the album the title and which ends the album with a series of intervals in major with a colour rarely used in jazz, recalls the very beginning. The story of the realization of this CD is conveyed in the impressionistic film “*Wenn aus dem Himmel*” by Fabrizio Ferraro, inspired by the two musician’s journeys from their home cities to Lugano. Stills from the film are shown in the CD booklet.

(ECM Press Office)

## PAOLO FRESU

### ALTERNATIVE BIO

*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)**

Award winner, internationally acclaimed Sardinian trumpet player Paolo Fresu has performed around the world over the past 30 years. With a track record of 300 recordings so far, Fresu has worked with musicians such as John Taylor, Kenny Wheeler, Palle Danielsson, Jon Christensen, Gerry Mulligan, David Liebman, Dave Holland, Richard Beirach, John Zorn, John Abercrombie, Helen Merrill, Ralph Towner, Richard Galliano, Michel Portal, Trilok Gurtu, Jeanne Lee, Gunther Schüller, Paul McCandless, Jim Hall, Lew Soloff, Uri Caine, Gil Evans Orchestra, Toots Thielemans, Omar Sosa, Carla Bley, Steve Swallow, Andy Sheppard, Nguyen Le, Enrico Rava, Antonello Salis, Enrico Pieranunzi, Giorgio Gaslini, Glen Ferris.

Fresu is also professor and artistic director of internationally renowned jazz festivals such as Time in Jazz and Nuoro Jazz.

He is involved in the production of numerous multimedia projects, cooperating with actors, dancers, painters, sculptors, and poets, as well as writing music for film, documentary, video, ballet, and theater pieces. His ‘**A Solo**’ concert at the Auditorium in Rome totally enchanted an audience of 3,000 people

Fresu has been involved in numerous projects, which have taken him all over the world for more than 200 concerts a year. As last productions, in 2011 he was back in UK for a tour with **Ralph Towner** and their new acclaimed project ‘**Chiaroscuro**’ (ECM 2010). In 2013 he’ll be back in the States with Omar Sosa (with Trilok Gurtu in UK, too) and Uri Caine in different tour and in Europe with Brass Bang!, an extraordinary all horns and all stars quartet with Gianluca Petrella, Steven Bernstein and Marcus Rojas.

He’s very active with his own label Tuk Music ( <http://tukmusic.paolofresu.it/>)

<http://www.paolofresu.it>

### **Daniele di Bonaventura**

Daniele di Bonaventura is a composer-arranger and a pianist-bandoneonist. He was born in Fermo (in Marche region, Italy) in 1966. He started a classical training at the age of 8 and studied grand piano, cello, composing and orchestration. He obtained a diploma in composing. In the early stages of his career, he was already showing great interest in improvised music His music ranges from classical to contemporary music, from jazz to tango, from ethnic to world music, and he has also been involved in the worlds of theatre, cinema and dance.

He has performed at major Italian and international festivals such as: Rumori Mediterranei (Mediterranean Sounds) in Roccella Jonica '87 e '88; Jazz & Image of Villa Celimontana in Roma, Ravenna Jazz 2000 , Clusone Jazz 2001, Biennale Arte Venice 2001; Sant'Anna Arresi Jazz 2004; Festival della Letteratura Mantova 2004 (Festival of literature, Mantova 2004); Cormòns 2005, Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia Stagione Musica da Camera 2005-'06 (National Academy of Saint Cecilia, chamber music season); England - Music Hall Festival and Royal Festival Hall in London; Olanda - Music Hall a Leeuwarden; Germany - 30° Deutsches Jazz Festival in Francoforte; Berlin Jazz Festival; Spain -Festa de la Mercè a Barcellona; Egitto - Opera House a Il Cairo; Norway - Olavsfestdagen a Trondheim; France; Switzerland; Portugal; Brazil; Argentina; Slovenia; Croatia and Albania; Singapore; Russia; USA.

He has played, recorded and collaborated with: Enrico Rava; Paolo Fresu; Oliver Lake; David Murray; Miroslav Vitous; Rita Marcotulli; David Liebman; Toots Tielemans; Omar Sosa; Flavio Boltro; Joanne Brackeen; Greg Osby; Ira Coleman; Dino Saluzzi; Javier Girotto; Cèsar Stroscio; Tenores di Bitti; Aires Tango; Peppe Servillo; David Riondino; Francesco Guccini; Sergio Cammariere; Lella Costa; Eugenio Allegri; Alessandro Haber; Giuseppe Piccioni; Mimmo Cuticchio; Custòdio Castelo; André Jaume; Tiziana Ghiglioni;

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Ornella Vanoni; Franco Califano; Furio Di Castri; U.T. Gandi; Luis Agudo; Elena Ledda; A Filetta. In 2003, at the request of the Marchigiana Philharmonic Orchestra, he composed, played and recorded the "Suite for bandoneon and Orchestra" for them.

He has released more than 20 albums on various labels: Via Veneto Jazz; Philology; Manifesto; Felmay; Amiata Records; Splasc(H); World Music; CCn'C Records; Last year, for Dodicilune, its latest work in quartet called "Canto alla terra" (Song for the earth) and recently for Manifesto, the "Suite for Bandoneon and Orchestra". His latest collaboration was with Miroslav Vitous who invited him to record his new album "Universal Syncopation II". It is to be released in 2007 on the prestigious German label ECM and the new released in 2011 "Mistico Mediterraneo" with Paolo Fresu and A Filetta (ECM Records).

[www.danieledibonavventura.com](http://www.danieledibonavventura.com)