

TAM DE VILLIERS - GUITAR. COMPOSITION

Tam de Villiers was born in England in 1979 and spent his childhood partly in South Africa, partly in England and mostly in Scotland. He first became involved with music at age 4 playing the violin and then piano a few years later. At the age of 15 he began learning guitar and initially took classes with renowned Scottish saxophonist Tommy Smith.

He then studied at Leeds College of Music, attaining his Masters Degree in 2001. He went on to teach and give workshops at the College during which time he toured with his own group and worked as a side man in Tommy Smith's big bands including the SNJO (*Scottish National Jazz Orchestra*).

In 2003, Tam moved to Paris. He at first attended classes at the conservatoire de Montreuil under the direction of guitarist Malo Vallois where he received a *medaille d'or à l'unanimité* (gold medal with distinction) after one year. Since then he has had several influential meetings with musicians such as Marc Ducret, Stephane Payen, Paul and Fabrizio Cassol who have inspired his playing and his writing over the last few years.

He released his first album « Alba Lux » of his quartet with Karl Jannuska, David Prez and Bruno Schorp in October 2008. The CD received excellent reviews from the jazz press (Jazzman, Jazz Magazine, Citizen Jazz, Culture Jazz, Jazzwise...).

In September 2009, he participated with his quartet in the famous Trophées du Sunside Jazz Competition, and received 1st prize for Best Soloist.

Currently, he is preparing the release of his second album « MOTION UNFOLDING » (recorded June 2010) with his quartet and David Linx as guest singer.

He has notably played and/or recorded with: Tommy Smith, Marc Ducret, Stephane Payen, Matthew Bourne, Paul Brousseau, Antonin Rayon, Nikki Yeoh, Julian Arguelles, Issam Krimi, Christophe Panzani, Amy Gamlen, Yoni Zelnick, Matthieu Chazarenc, Antoine Hervé, Franck Amsallem, Thomas Savy, Sylvaine Héлары, Remi Vignolo, Sylvain del Campo, Yvan Robillard, Michael Felberbaum....

DAVID PREZ - TENOR SAXOPHONE

« David's playing is fluent and swinging. His sound is... exquisite! And he writes great tunes as well! »
The late great, Michael Brecker.

« Already a monster of technique and rhythmic placement, David Prez also shows evidence of imagination and a formidable presence musically!"Ca joue" as they say, and it's good to hear! »
Nicolas Brémaud – Jazzman Magazine

Saxophonist & composer David Prez studied at Conservatory of Lyon, France, graduating in 2000 with the highest level jazz diploma and the congratulations of the examining panel, and furthered his studies in the USA and with David Liebman and Michael Brecker.

In 2004, he made his first recording as a leader: "New Life" (PJU Records) in New York with Bill Stewart (drums), Johannes Weidenmueller (bass) and Franck Amsallem (piano).

In Paris he is a very active musician, a founder member of Paris jazz Underground Collective and he is currently leading his own group together with Romain Pilon (guitar), featuring Yoni Zelnik (bass) and Karl Jannuska (drums) and also his quintet with pianist Laurent Coq. The Prez /Pilon Group has made 3 recordings to date for labels Fresh Sound New Talent and A.P.O. Records. David has collaborated or performed with musicians such as David Liebman, David Doruzka, Laurent Coq, Pierre de Bethman, François Moutin, Nicolas Folmer, Keziah Jones... and in numerous festivals : Jazz à Vienne, MIDEM de Cannes, Le Printemps de Bourges, Malta Jazz Festival, Brussels Jazz Marathon, Bancko Jazz Festival (BG), Trova Festival (Cuba), Deer Head Inn (USA), Cargo (UK), Mercati Generali (IT)...

BRUNO SCHORP - DOUBLE BASS

After classical music studies at the *CNR de Nancy*, he began his Jazz education at the *CMCN* (currently the *MAI de Nancy*) taking lessons from Diego Imbert, Yannick Robert, Franck Aghulon and then studied at the *CNR de Metz* with Eric Barret, Mario Stanchev, and Yves Torchinsky.

Following this, he went on to study at the renowned *Conservatoire Nationale Supérieure de Musique de Paris* and worked on improvisation with Riccardo Del Fra, Dré Pallemert, Glen Ferris and Daniel Humair. Alongside his studies he was to establish himself as one of the in demand bassists on the Paris club scene.

As a sideman he has worked with Yoshko Seffer, Sebastien Llado, Leila Olivesi, Rémi Vignolo, Rémy Descormeilles, Jérôme Barde, Vincent Bourgeyx, Alain Jean Marie, Sébastien Jarousse, Rémi Dumoulin, Guillaume Poncelet, Bruno Ruder, Antoine Paganotti, Leonardo Montana, Anne Pacey, Emmanuel Duprey, Bruno Ruder, Issam Krimi, Michaël Felberbaum, Mathieu Chazarenc, Christophe Panzani, Pierre Perchaud, Vincent Perani and others.

He has been Jazz Bass teacher at the Conservatoire of Malakoff and giving Jazz workshops at the Conservatoire of Auxerre for several years.

Before the end of 2010, he will release an album of his own group: Le Colors Sextet. This is the first opus of the group and is called « Eveil ».

Bruno Schorp was awarded prizes at the Concours National de la Défense 2008 (1st prize for Composition and 3rd prize for best soloist) as well as at the Trophées du Sunside 2008.

KARL JANNUSKA - DRUMS

Born in Altona, Manitoba, Canada on December 31, 1975, Karl began playing the drums at the age of 7. As a teenager in Brandon, Manitoba, he studied with local drummer Doug Sullivan who introduced him to jazz and allowed the young drummer to sit in on his gigs. In 1993 Karl moved to Montreal where he attended McGill University and in 1997 completed a Bachelor of Music degree with High Distinction. While enrolled at McGill Karl studied with drummers Peter Magadini, Chris McCann and André White and composition with Jan Jarczyk, Kevin Dean and Joe Sullivan. Receiving grants from the Canada and Quebec Arts councils in 1999, Karl moved to New York for nine months to study with drummer Tom Rainey.

Karl has become one of the top call drummers in France since his move to Paris in 2001. At the age of 34, Karl has performed and/ or recorded with Lee Konitz, Brad Mehldau, Randy Brecker, Sheila Jordan, Louie Bellson, Dave Liebman, Kenny Wheeler, Mark Turner, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Kevin Hays, Ben Monder, Peter Bernstein, David Binney, Seamus Blake, Michel Donato, François Bourassa, François Théberge, Ingrid Jensen, Bojan Z, Christine Jensen, Joel Miller, Brad Turner, David Linx, Stephane Belmondo, Laurent Coq, Jacky Terrason, François Moutin, Rick Margitza, Nicolas Folmer, David El Malek, Baptiste Trotignon, Sophie Alour, Niels Lan Doky, Paolo Fresu, Pierre DeBethmann, and Sara Lazarus.

As a teacher, Karl has been on the teaching staff at the Jazz in Marciac workshop since 2005. He has been a jury member for the Conservatoire de Marseille and since 2007 has given masterclasses at the Centre des Musiques Didier Lockwood (CMDL) and the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique (CNSMDP) in Paris.

Karl can be heard on over forty recordings as a sideman. His first release as a leader, "Liberating Vines" (FND 042) received an Opus award for "Jazz and World Music Record of the Year". In 2004 Karl's composition "House of 100 Faces" was awarded the CBC Etoiles Galaxie prize for most original composition at the Montréal International Jazz Festival. His second cd "Thinking in Colours" (Effendi & Cristal record labels) released in 2008, received rave reviews from the critics. His much awaited third cd as a leader, "Streaming", was released in April 2010 under the label of the new collective, Paris Jazz Underground, in which Karl is one of the founding members. The cd is comprised of ten of the drummer's original compositions and features one of Canada's finest vocalists, Sienna Dahlen.



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