



## Dino Massa Quartet *Suite pour le piano for Jazz Quartet*

**Dino Massa** pianist composer from Naples. He has performed in the United States (*American Jazz Museum* in Kansas City), in France, Spain, Belgium, UK, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Romania, Poland, Czech Republic, Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro. He has played with musicians such as *John Abercrombie*, *Marcus Hampton* (of the famous family of... Lionel Hampton, Slide Hampton), *Stan Kenton*, *Tomasz Gregorsky*, *Sigurdur Flosason*, *Chris Burnett*. He has released nine disks as leader. He teaches jazz piano at the Conservatories of Cosenza, and Benevento.

**Nicola Pisani** saxophonist, composer and conductor from Bari. During his long career he has played in Europe: Jazz Festival Kiev (Ukraine), Saalfelden Jazz Festival (Austria), Festival di Salonicco (Greece), Munster Jazz Festival, Weimar and Jazz Ahead, Bremen (Germany), Aarhus Jazz, (Denmark) America, Buenos Aires (Argentina), Africa - Fez Amazigh Festival (Morocco) and Asia - ICT Riyad e Jeddha. He has played his compositions and projects with, among others, *John Surman*, *Michel Godard*, *Steve Lacy*, *Sergey Kuryokhin*. He teaches Ensemble and composition at the Conservatory of Cosenza.

**Luca Garlaschelli** bassist composer from Milan, has collaborated with musicians like *Harold Land*, *Bruce Forman*, *Jimmy Cobb*, *Paolo Fresu*, *Tiziana Ghiglioni*, *Enrico Rava*, *Gaetano Liguori*, *Franco Cerri*, *Enrico Intra*, *Antonello Salis*, *G. Luigi Trovesi*, and others. He has been on tour with *Steve Turre*,

*Bruce Forman*, *Jimmy Owens*, *George Cables* and *Tony Scott*. He performed in Cuba, Germany, Switzerland, France, USA, Poland, Yugoslavia and Lebanon. He teaches at the Conservatory of Mantova and Cosenza.

**Alessandro Rossi** drummer from Milan. He has collaborated with musicians like *Enrico Rava*, *Paolo Fresu*, *Achille Succi*, *Tino Tracanna*, *Marco Micheli*, *Roberto Rossi*, *Max De Aloe*, *Gianluigi Trovesi*, *Paolo Tommelleri*; he played with the *Orchestra Nazionale Giovanile "Giovani Talenti"* of Italian jazz directed by M° Paolo Damiani. With this orchestra he played in many venues like: European Parliament of Bruxelles, Teatro Strehler, Milan, Iseo Jazz, Umbria jazz, Jazz Italiano per L'Aquila. Recently he released his first disk *Emancipation* for Italian label Cam Jazz.

The word "suite", which might be obsolete nowadays, contains a yesteryear fascination in its brief five letters, a prelude to something special, used very much in the music of the 70's to define long rock and jazz songs. It often introduced our more attentive ears to authentic masterpieces, surprising and unforeseen; stories to be told in words and music. Today, at a time when music, just like other art forms is consumed via a "click" and compressed in a mobile phone, finding it on a disc appears almost anachronistic. Yet here it is, presented in four long tracks, each one with a wider scope that allows you to examine in depth and savour what you hear.

**Dino Massa** is a musician who for more than twenty years has explored many paths, starting from a musical education in a setting in which music was the essence of life. He has portrayed his city through jazz and its special standards in dialect and has widened his view to the history of jazz. He has fully explored the magnificent instrument that he plays finding new sounds for it and has associated himself with many excellent musicians.

In the final piece he seems to be at a "turning point", a different experience, a turning point in a sound which seems to be the result of a perfect union between himself and three other great artists:

**Nicola Pisani, Luca Garlaschelli and Alessandro Rossi.**

In the four long compositions that signify this multi-colored design, there is room for all that has signed his path: the melody of his country, the classical piano, the strong rhythmic value of Jazz, the interplay between musicians as identifying figures, the awareness of the solo role and that of the supporting musician. There is a great sign of maturity and a form of exchange of which he seems to be skillfully capable in these pieces. He leaves a large space to the remarkable flair of Nicola Pisani, who seeps through the role and plays evocative passages with his saxophone. A job done with great depth and maturity, which seems to reward his effort in a rigid route and at the same time guide towards new and interesting developments.

*Sergio Spada*

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