

GERSHWIN ON AIR

Massimiliano Rolff Trio

Blue Note
SHANGHAI



Massimiliano Rolff Double Bass
Joost Swart Piano
Antonio Fusco Drums

George Gershwin's extraordinary musical world emerges, caresses us, amazes us and finally overwhelms us in the uniqueness of this concert. Rolff shapes in a contemporary writing, the songs, the musicals, the jazz and the orchestral sound that made Gershwin's music the pillar on which the 'American Sound' is built.

On November 2021 the dutch label CHALLENGE RECORDS releases Massimiliano Rolff's new album "GERSHWIN ON AIR – Porgy, Bess and Beyond".

Massimiliano Rolff Trio found a surprising feeling and a unique understanding through the highlights musical moments of the opera 'Porgy and Bess' and on the amazing series of wonderful songs all signed by George and Ira Gershwin.

Melody is the main character of this concert, where interplay, imaginative atmospheres, soul and swing are revealed, in a climax of vibrant improvisations.

The concert features a suite from "Porgy and Bess" (including Ain't necessarily so, Summertime, I loves you Porgy) and many great Gershwin' songs such as A foggy day, Embraceable you, But not for me...

MASSIMILIANO ROLFF TRIO



GERSHWIN ON AIR

"So, with this trio, Gershwin once again sounds very modern: a reasoned way to deal with the future." - **Audio Review**

"Rolff has managed, through masterful arrangements, to pay tribute to some memorable episodes of Gershwin's career without falling into banal and predictable." - **Progressivamente**

"Gershwin on Air" is an interesting record that exposes another aspect of Rolff, struggling with a "classic" repertoire but without giving up his original musical vision, creating a tribute that is particularly fascinating and successful, also thanks to the excellent choice of travel companions. " Jazz Espresso

"This work represents for the Genoese double bass player a significant leap in quality in his twenty-year career" - **Il Secolo XIX**

"Massimiliano Rolff and his two traveling companions show their interpretative personality, internalizing the songs of the immense Gershwin and then sewing them on themselves according to a very specific idea of sound. Above all thanks to Rolff's excellent arrangements that give a fresher and more modern harmonic and rhythmic dress to the milestones born of one of the greatest musicians of all time " - **Musica & Strumenti**

MASSIMILIANO ROLFF

Massimiliano Rolff's music, founded on a deep knowledge of the jazz tradition combined with a personal taste for composition, has become in recent years a point of reference for many lovers of jazz music in Italy and in Europe.

As a freelance bassist in recent years he has played in the most renowned jazz clubs, festivals, theaters, TV shows, Embassies and Italian Cultural Institutes in Italy, Holland, France, Austria, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, Portugal, Hungary, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Argentina, Uruguay, China, Japan, Hong Kong and USA with Steve Grossman, Scott Hamilton, Eliot Zigmund, Perico Sambeat, Jesse Davis, Dave Schmitter, Federico Britos, Phil Woods, Peter King, Garrison Fewell, Herb Geller, Rachel Gould, Eric Legnini, Danny Grissett, Sangoma Everett, Andrea Dulbecco, Andy Gravish, Dado Moroni, Flavio Boltro, Paolo Damiani, Gabriele Mirabassi, Luca Begonia, Marco Tamburini, Gianpaolo Casati, Carlo Atti, Andrea Pozza, François Chassagnite, Claudio Chiara, Luca Santaniello, Karen Edwards, Johannes Faber, Emanuele Cisi, Enzo Zirilli, Jasper van't Hof, Alessio Menconi and many other fantastic musicians.

Since 2006 he has released 8 albums as a leader, composer and arranger [Unit Five, 2006 - Naked, 2009 - More music, 2012 - Scream! 2016 - Italian Life in contemporary time, 2016 - Cubiculum, 2017 - Home Feeling, 2018 - Gershwin on Air, 2021] receiving international awards, acknowledgments and critical reviews. He has participated in the recording of dozens of albums as a sideman.

In 2008 he founded the Count Basie Jazz Club in Genoa, and since 2011 he has taught at the Conservatories of Messina, La Spezia, Monopoli and Palermo. He currently holds the chair of Jazz Bass at the Piacenza Jazz Conservatory.



JOOST SWART



“Joost Swart is undoubtedly one of the most interesting pianists to have appeared on the Dutch scene in recent years” (Remco Takken, Dutch jazz critic). During his first year, Joost became a founding member of the famous Francien van Tuinen Quintet. After having intensely toured the great Dutch stages with Francien and having played at the North Sea Jazz Festival 5 times, Joost subsequently moved to New York where for a few years he participated in the vibrant music scene of the Big Apple, alternating numerous tours in Europe and Japan. Recent highlights include regular concerts with Benjamin Herman, Jesse van Ruller, John Engels, Hans Dulfer, Rick Margitza, Vincent Herring, Don Braden, Valery Ponomarev, Freddie Bryant, and Ralph Peterson among others.

ANTONIO FUSCO

A multifaceted and creative Italian drummer with a focus on the African-American jazz tradition, Antonio Fusco has recorded more than fifty albums, as a sideman, leader and co-leader, from pop to avant-garde jazz. A multifaceted and creative Italian drummer with a focus on the African-American jazz tradition, Antonio Fusco has recorded more than fifty albums, as a sideman, leader and co-leader, from pop to avant-garde jazz. He toured Europe, Africa, Asia and America and numerous festivals in Italy. He has played with: Tim Berne, Nick Hampton, Yuhan Su, Paolo Fresu, Tino Tracanna, Paolino Dalla Porta, Francesco Bearzatti Tinissima 4et, Reem Kelani Band, Giovanni Falzone 5et, Giovanni Falzone Contemporary Orchestra, Henrik Jensen FB 13, Bruno Heinen, Peter Ehwald, Bruno Heinen and many others.

He is currently involved in several projects both as a leader and as a sideman including Antonio Fusco Quintet, Antonio Fusco Trio, Massimiliano Rolff trio Gershwin On Air, Simona De Rosa Vuelvo al Sur. From 2017 to 2022, he lived and taught at the jazz department of Beijing Contemporary Music Academy, China and regularly conducts drum lessons and online masterclasses on various platforms.



GERSHWIN ON AIR

"Gershwin on air is proof of the inexhaustible evocative power of this music, which can still be renewed if entrusted to the right hands." - **Tracce di Jazz**

"The stylistic evolution of Massimiliano Rolff's trio offers us a jazz decidedly open to contemporary improvisation and capable of intervening with great personality in the reinterpretation of a repertoire that is difficult to say the least. Valuable album, all to be listened to, which is not aimed only at jazz fans, but at a wider audience." - **Extra!**

"... It's a jazz record, indeed it's a captivating jazz record. Yet it is not a record for jazz fans only. And Massimiliano Rolff never disappoints..." - **Sicilia H24**

"Ces morceaux de Porgy and Bess et d'autres nous prennent par la main, si j'ose dire, pour nous emmener dans un monde musical lumineux, mais parfois aussi nocturne, comme dans Who cares ? et on est bien." - **Le Soir**



[Video](#)



[Audio](#)



[Web Site](#)

Album Out



**CHALLENGE
RECORDS**

MASSIMILIANO ROLFF TRIO

GERSHWIN ON AIR



Suite from Porgy and Bess

Live @ Teatro G. Modena - Genova - Italy



Summertime

Live @ Blue Note, Beijing - China



Who cares?

Live @ Torino Jazz Festival - Italy



Someone to watch over me

Studio



Our love is here to stay

Live @ JZ Club - Hangzhou, China



I loves you, Porgy

Live @ Blue Note, Beijing - China



Embraceable you

Live @ Pjazzetta Jazz Club - Recoaro- Italy



A foggy day

Live @ Teatro G. Modena, Genova - Italy



SELECTED LIST OF PERFORMANCES: GattoBianco, Acireale IT - Tatum Art Jazz Club, Palermo IT - Play Festival, Reggio C - IT - Duke Jazz Club, Bari IT - Teatro Didonna, Andria IT - AlexanderPlatz, Roma IT - Spirito Jazz, Pontedera IT - Cantina Bentivoglio, Bologna IT - Taverna Visconti, Milano IT - Count Basie Jazz Club, Genova IT - Cantine dell'arena, Verona IT - Auditorium S.Francesco, Chiavari IT - Ex-Wide, Pisa IT - Da Quinto, Cremona IT - Teatro Coccia, Novara IT - Pjazzetta, Recoaro IT - Bacchus, La Spezia IT - Orchidea, S.Margherita L. IT - Teatro Modena, Genova IT - Milestone, Piacenza IT - Fabrica Braco de Prata, Lisboa PT - Sala 6, Barreiro PT - Jazz Club Cascais PT - Rèpublica 14, Olhao PT - Budapest Jazz Club, Budapest HU - If Cafè, Budapest HU - Mixàt, Budapest HU - Thelonious Jazz Club, Trieste IT - Biella Jazz Club, Biella IT - Laurin Bar, Bolzano IT - Torino Jazz Festival, Torino IT - Offbeat La Valletta, Malta - Salon 10, Hong Kong - Make Music Festival, Hong Kong - Golden Jazz, Zhuai China - JZ club Guangzhou, China - Oak Nose, Chengdu China - Blue Note, Shanghai China - JZ club Hangzhou China - Blue Note, Beijing China - Italian Embassy Beijing China



GERSHWIN ON AIR

**MASSIMILIANO ROLFF TRIO
FEAT. JOOST SWART & ANTONIO FUSCO**

*There are many Gershwin works in the market, but this one is very unique. The rich musicality of the italian bassist and his arrangements offer a new graceful and tasteful experience in Gershwin's music...." **Japan Jazz***

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and recitals



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