



HERVE CELCAL

album "BEL AIR FOR PIANO"

Jazz bèlè !

HERVE CELCAL piano, chœurs
 CHRIS JENNINGS contrebasse, chœurs
 BORIS REINE-ADELAIDE tambour bèlè, chœurs
 ABRAHAM MANSFARROLL RODRIGUEZ batterie, tambours bàtà, chœurs
 Guest : PRABHU EDOUARD tablas, kanjira

Deb's Music
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PRESS

" Hervé Celcal, jazzman autodidacte, transfigure le bèlè sans le trahir, avec un swing ambidextre décalé, terriblement dansant... Coup de foudre pour ce premier CD enthousiasmant !"
Gérald Arnaud / Le Nouvel Observateur

" Hervé Celcal affirme son propre style, adossé aux chœurs, aux percussions et aux roulements de tambours typiques du bèlè. Avec une touche de piano jazz délicate et inimitable. Une heureuse synthèse".
Annie Yanbékian / Culture box- France tv

" Un magnifique travail d'arrangement, richesse polyrythmique". *Franck Bergerot - Jazz Magazine Jazzman*

" Hervé Celcal ne propose pas seulement de découvrir la richesse artistique de sa terre, il nous conte une histoire ".
Joe Farmer / RFI

" Excellent CD " *Francis Marmande / Le Monde*

" En mêlant la tradition du jazz et celle du bèlè, forme traditionnelle de la Martinique, il propose une musique éminemment vivante. " *Xavier Prévost / France Musique*

" Hervé Celcal prend la place à la fois du chanteur soliste et du chœur répond. Il faut souligner la pureté de son toucher, du son presque cristallin qu'il tire du piano sur des mélodies qui peuvent rappeler celles qu'on imagine inspirées de son île. Hervé est un authentique musicien de jazz au sens de l'universalité vers laquelle tend cette musique." *Pierre Gros / Culture Jazz*

"Bel air for piano nous emmène dans un voyage au pays des rythmes du bèlè. L'album est enregistré d'une telle façon que le silence trouve sa place dans ce foisonnement musical. Roots et moderne..."
Christophe Chat-verre / Magazine Air Caraïbe

" Entretenir la mémoire collective en revisitant ces rythmes et les conserver tels quels, les deux démarches sont intéressantes. " *Eddy Chénère / France Antilles*

HERVE CELCAL

"BEL AIR FOR PIANO"



Hervé Celcal starts learning classic piano at the age of 7 on his native island Martinique (France, West Indies) and continues his lessons at L' école normale Alfred Cortot in Paris (France). He meets the jazz pianist Bernard Maury, who proposes to join his teaching staff in the school he has just founded . But Hervé is already on stage doing keyboards for various artists (Oliver Ngoma , Sally Nyolo , Admiral T doing the orchestral arrangements for his live shows , Dédé St. Prix ...) Today, Hervé Celcal is working as a pianist on a very personal acoustic project inspired by the traditional music of Martinique, the bèlè : « bel air for piano ».

Within the bèlè, wich is intimately linked to drums, Hervé introduces a novelty, his instrument : the piano and all the modern aspects of jazz spirit.

Since he didn't know how to play drums (at a time when drums were less valorised than today), Hervé worked at recreating the same sounds and evoking the melodious chants of the singer and « the repondè » (the chorists) with his piano.

That's when the different bèlè rhythms impregnate Herve's compositions : woulé mango, ting bang , beguine bèlè , to the extent that even on solo piano , they live on with force. He also honored the different musical forms issued from this local culture : beguine, mazurka , chouval bwa, quadrille, creole waltz. **This already very rich body fusions very well, thanks to the genius of belè wich recreates jazz, its harmonies, its improvisations, basically : its spirit.**

Beyond his personal path as a composer, Hervé Celcal wants to initiate a pedagogic project. Today, Herve wants to make traditional bèlè culture more popular by transmitting the result of his research on piano. As it has been by musicians from other cultures, like Cuba for instance, and as in classical music or jazz, bèlè could one day be taught on piano. The edition of the notes as desired by Hervé (unusual for music from Martinique) is part of this approach.

MUSICIANS

Boris Reine-Adelaïde (Martinique) : bèlè drums

It's not easy, far from Martinique, to meet drummers that have the spirit and the skills of the best. Armed with his very young experiences (Edmond Mondesir , Erik) , Boris Reine-Adelaïde plays with faith and dexterity. He does his best to echo his drums in its modern context.

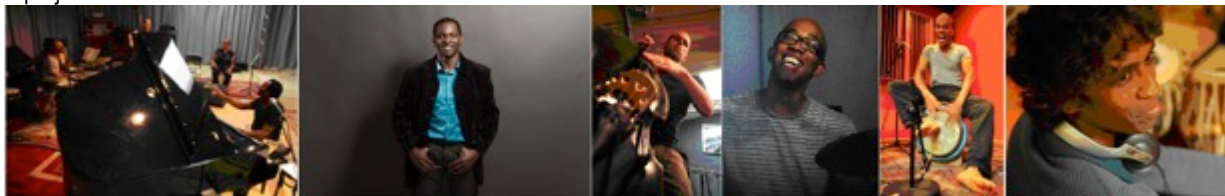
Chris Jennings (Canada) : db bass

Hervé chose Chris among the worlds best bassists (Dhaffer Youssef, Thomas Enhco, Yaron Herman, Nguyen Lê, Tigran Hamassian, Mark Gulliana), capable of playing with high precision and familiar with mixing jazz and traditional sounds. He brings in the kind of groove that sticks it all together. Since 1996, he has benefited from various grants to develop his style from the Debanff arts-center in Canada. In the year 2000, he obtained a licence in jazz at the University of Toronto, Canada, and in 2004, an MDA in music at the royal music conservatory of Lahaye, Holland. He has been teaching for 17 years, now he is giving lessons at Didier lockwood'ss school , at the music conservatory of Chelles (France) and giving master-classes in private and public institutions all over the world.

Abraham Mansfaroll Rodriguez (Cuba) : drums, bàtà drums

Abraham « Manfa » is part of the new generation of the most brilliant Cuban drummers and percussionists. He has been decorated with the most prestigious prizes in the pedagogic field as in instrumental practice. Timbales, congas, bata drums, bongos: « Manfa » has become irreplaceable in France where he is living now. He's been collaborating with a wide range of artists, from Alfredo Rodriguez , Henri Guedon, to Ernesto iTitoí Puente, Papa Wemba, David Murray, Patrice Caratini, Julien Lourau, Raul Paz, or even Charles Aznavour.

On the album, he brings in the traditional Cuban sound ; his very inventive and aerial style on the drums serve the jazzy aspect of Herves project.



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Feat. Prabhu Edouard (France, India): tablas, kanjira

Prabhu is one of the best tabla player of his generation, based in France. This disciple of famous maestro Shankar Ghosh played with such amazing musicians as Hariprasad Chaurasia, Laxmi Shankar, V.G.Jog, Ashish Khan, T.V. Gopalakrishnan, T.Vishwanathan, Shashank, Rohini Bhate, Rajendra Gangani, Astad Debu... He's at the present time very active with N'Guyen Lê and Mieko Miyazaki. Prabhu showed very great enthusiasm to Hervé, being included in Bel air for piano for two titles performances.

On stage : Mauro Gargano : db bass

Mauro Gargano joined the team in autumn 2013. Based in Paris since 1998, this italian bassist is well-known both as a marvelous leader and a sideman (Kenny Werner, Giovanni Mirabassi, Bojan Z., etc.). He entered in the bèlè's universe with sensibility, intelligence and creativity, declaring to Hervé Celcal : « I love dancing ! »

Live were occasions to invite such musicians as : Prabhu Edouard (tablas), Keyvan Chemirani (zarb), Laurent Lasingue (steel drums), Philippe Cantinol (traditional narrator), Mamou Orsinet (bèlè dancer), Khalid Kouhen (oriental percussions)... On stage, the audience lives a real « swarè bèlè » in the jazz spirit, a very festive and generous moment with the four powerful musicians.



UPCOMING SHOWS

29/05 : Sunside – Paris

29/06 : Le Canapé - Gif-sur-Yvette (78)

8-9/08: Le Maquis de Vareilles - Bourgogne

10/10 : « Piano en Gare » - Paris

12/12 : Théâtre El-Duende - Ivry s/Seine

december : West Indies Tour

january 15 : concert de sortie du recueil de partitions

« Bel air for piano »

march 15 : Petit Journal Montparnasse - Paris

14/03/15 : médiathèque Marguerite Duras – Paris

7/06/15 : Café de la danse - Paris

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PAST SHOWS

30/03/14 : Festival Jazz en ville (Conflans Ste Honorine)

23/01/14 L'Encre (Guyane)

2013

5-6/12 Martinique Jazz Festival (Fort-de-France)

15/11 New Morning (Paris) avec Mauro Gargano (ctb), Abraham Mansfarroll (drums), Boris Reine-Adélaïde (bèlè)

& Keyvan Chemirani (zarb)

26/10 Jazz sur le vif (France Musique) en quartet live studio de Radio France

18/10 Colombes jazz (auditorium du conservatoire de Colombes)

26/09 « Concert hommage à Aimé Césaire » (Clichy)

11/08 Biguine Jazz festival (Saint-Pierre - Martinique)

26/06 Le canapé (Gif sur Yvette)

19 /06 Sunside (Paris)

2/05 Jazz session (Pierrelaye)

27/04 Café de la danse (Paris)

11/04 La Fabrique 70 (Paris)