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## WINTER CONCERT 2012 – MARCO PIGNATARO JAZZET

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### MARCO PIGNATARO

Italian saxophonist Marco Pignataro has performed extensively across Europe and the Americas in jazz festivals and international music venues, sharing stages and clinics with artists such as Eddie Gomez, Joanne Brackeen, Danilo Perez, George Garzone, John Patitucci, Kenwood Dennard, Rufus Reid, Antonio Sanchez, Ben Street, Billy Drummond, Billy Hart, Billy Drummond, Ray Vega, Oscar Stagnaro, Clark Terry and Jon Faddis, among others. Currently, Marco is a member of the Eddie Gomez Quintet and leader of the Marco Pignataro Jazzet.

A native of Bologna, Italy, Marco studied classical music at the Bruno Maderna Conservatory of Music and jazz at the University of Miami and Florida International University, as well as with jazz artists and educators such as Steve Grossman, Gary Campbell, Ed Calle, Gary Keller, Ron Miller, Vince Maggio, Mike Orta, Renato D'Aiello, and Richard Dunscomb. Marco is currently the Managing Director of the Berklee Global Jazz Institute (BGJI) in Boston, a new program designed to foster creativity and musicianship through a variety of musical disciplines. Together with Danilo Perez as Artistic Director, Marco leads the BGJI as a center of musical creativity that emphasizes personalized goal-setting and directed study, experiential and service learning with a special emphasis on nature and the environment, business acumen, and intensive access to world-class visiting artists. Marco has been the director of the Jazz and Caribbean Music Department and Jazz Saxophone Chair at the Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico. As a dedicated music educator, Marco also participates as jazz faculty in the University of Veracruz International Summer Jazz Seminars.

Marco's column, *Style & Influence*, was regularly featured in the quarterly magazine *Jazz Improv*. As a reviewer and columnist, Marco has also conducted interviews with Branford Marsalis, Jerry Bergonzi, Danilo Perez, David Sánchez, and Miguel Zenón. MARCO PIGNATARO is a RICO Performing Artist, Endorser for Mauriat saxophones and for the Applied Microphone Technology Wireless System. The latest Marco Pignataro CD release "Sofia's Heart" was produced by jazz legend Eddie Gomez and features Marco's compositions and arrangements. "Sofia's Heart" was recorded in Philadelphia with a stellar group formed by Eddie Gomez, Bill Drummond, Matt Marvuglio and Mark Kramer.

### DANIELA SCHACHTER

Daniela Schächter started early her musical career: by her mid-teens was already performing publicly in Sicily, Italy, as well as doing studio session work.

After her classical studies she moved to Boston MA as recipient of a scholarship to the Berklee College of Music, where she studied with Phil Wilson, Joe Lovano, Hal Crook and above all with Joanne Brackeen.

Daniela has won many prestigious awards, such as the **Mary Lou Williams Jazz Piano Competition 2005**, The Sister in Jazz Competition 2002, the Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead Competition 2002, the Terri Lyne Carrington Endowed Scholarship, the 'Tindari 93, Prize' for the best jazz duo with her brother Davide and also she appeared in the **Jazziz** magazine collector's

CD (July 2001). She was awarded a full-tuition scholarship to the Henry Mancini Institute for one month; there she met Billy Childs her favourite composer. The musicians that had the most influence in her music are Wayne Shorter, Keith Jarrett, Paul McCandless, Thelonious Monk, Bela Bartok, Maurice Ravel. Daniela has performed at the Brass Group Jazz Festival, the Umbria Jazz Fest, the Cape May Jazz Festival, the Cleveland Jazz Fest with the Rainbow Big Band, the International Trumpet Guild Conference, the Kennedy Center, the Sarasota Jazz Festival, the Cape Cod Jazz Festival, 'The Blue Note' with 'The Tiger Okoshi Quartet', the Symphony Hall with the Boston Pops and Patti Austin, the Ravinia Jazz Festival with the Count Basie Big Band and the Hollywood Bowl.

Daniela has performed with John Clayton Jr. and the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra, John Dankworth, the New York Voices, Terri Lyne Carrington, Patti Austin, Marian McPartland, Regina Carter, Kevin Mahogany, Christian McBride, Ingrid Jensen, Tiger Okoshi, Shirley Horn, Al McKibbin and Phil Wilson among others. She has also been conducted by Quincy Jones, Patrick Williams, Jerry Goldsmith, John Clayton Jr., Elmer Bernstein, Bob Brookmeyer, Justin DiCioccio and Phil Wilson.

Daniela Schaechter was guest artist of the prestigious Marian McPartland Piano Jazz radio program in June 2006 and JazzSet hosted by Dee Dee Bridgewater on WGBO 88.3 FM. She is leading her group in several NYC venues and she was part of the **Mary Lou Williams Jazz Festival 2006** and the **Java Jazz Festival 2006**. Recently she was featured among the top jazz musicians in NYC in the Japanese Playboy Magazine of October. Her CDs "Quintet" and "I colori del mare" are available on [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com). Her second CD, which features Gene Jackson, Jimmy Greene and Alex Sipiagin among others, has been released with the Italian jazz label Splasc Records. Her new "vocal" CD will be out in Fall 2008

## MARCELLO PELLITTERI

World-class musician, Marcello Pellitteri is best known as an award-winning drummer. Pellitteri is also an accomplished pianist, educator, composer, arranger and producer. Pellitteri graduated Cum Laude at the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston and then received a Master's Degree in Jazz Studies with Distinction in Performance from the New England Conservatory of Music.

For nearly 25 years, Pellitteri has taught at Berklee, where he is currently a Professor. He has played with jazz legends such as Joe Henderson, Woody Shaw, Jon Hendricks; with Grammy award winners New York Voices, Dave Samuels, Slide Hampton, Paquito D'Rivera; with orchestras such as the Boston Pops, the New Jersey Symphony and the Taipei Philharmonic; with the world renowned Gipsy Kings.

Moreover he has performed for prominent international political figures, Royal families and Head of States, such as President Clinton at the White House, Prince Alberto of Monaco in Montecarlo and Princess Margriet of The Netherlands. Pellitteri has recorded over 60 CDs and he has appeared on the stages of worldwide festivals and broadcast programs with concerts at Radio City Music Hall, Boston Symphony Hall; and performances on NBC's Tonight Show with Jay Leno, Late Night with Conan O'Brien as well as numerous Asian, South American and European radio and TV shows. When he's not on the road, in the studio, or teaching, you might catch Marcello playing with top jazz musicians in New York City, where he lives.

## ETHUS ETTUN

Growing up in Jerusalem, Israel Ehud Ettun started playing the piano at a young age. However, the serious interest in Music came only when Ehud was in his teenage years playing electric Guitar. Around that time Ehud started understanding the importance of ear training "I just wanted to be able to play melodies that I hear without having to spend the time to figure the notes out on the piano".

His early interest in ear training and some self directed ear training work was what helped him to get into the Israeli Arts & Sciences Academy at the age of fifteen. It was there that he met Professor Batsheva Rubinstein who taught him her unique method of ear training. At the academy Ehud also studied improvisation with Professor Andre Haydu and composition with Dr. Michael Wolpe and Mr. Israel Sharon. Around that time, Ehud started to study the upright Bass with Dr. Michael Klinghoffer - Dr. Klinghoffer's unique approach to Bass and education was what made Ehud fall in love with the Bass - Studying exclusively classical Bass.

At his late teenage years Ehud played all kinds of music - from Classical Bass suites and concertos and to Jazz and world music with different groups that worked in Jerusalem. After graduating from the Israeli Arts & Sciences Academy, Ehud started his compulsory military service at the Israeli Defense Force and his Bachelor degree at the Jerusalem Academy of Music & Dance. At September 2010 Ehud received a scholarship to attend the New England Conservatory of Music. At the conservatory he studied with Donny McCaslin, Dave Holland, Jason Moran and many more inspiring artists. At his time in Boston Ehud collaborated with George Garzone, Marco Pignataro, Laszlo Gardony, Nando Michelin, Kevin Harris and others. Ehud currently lives in New York, playing, composing and collaborating with interesting and inspiring artists.

## SERGIO MARTINEZ

Sergio Martinez was born in Madrid, Spain, he grew up in a very musical family and started playing percussion at age 15, studied with Paco de Lucia's percussionist Rubem Dantas, and afrolatin percussion with Rogerio da Souza and Luisito Dulzaides. Soon after, he added courses in Hindu percussion with Ramesh Sotham and studied percussion and drumset in el Taller de Musicos becoming part of the Latin Jazz Big Band conducted by Cuban guitarist Kotan. He soon developed an interest in Flamenco music and started his professional career at age 19 accompanying top Flamenco artist touring and playing in some of the most important theatres: Paris Opera, Sydney Opera House, or Teatro de Real Madrid to name a few.

Combining a flamenco music dedication with learning other styles of music and its rhythms and percussions, Martinez started becoming a very versatile percussionist who developed his voice as a sideman for many bands, as a studio recording musician and also as a leader.

During this process Martinez has recorded for artists such as Enrique Morente, Jose Merce, Diego el Cigala, Jorge Pardo among many others; accompanying some of the most important dancers like Joaquin Cortes, Antonio Canales, or Rocio Molina in flamenco; participating in some of the most important flamenco, jazz, and world music festivals; and touring all around the world in places like Montreal Jazz, Monterey Jazz, Panama Jazz, and Womad in Adelaide. He decided to audition for and won a scholarship to Berklee and in September 2010, he began studies with the Berklee Global Jazz Institute. Martinez's knowledge in flamenco tradition has taken him to record for singers like Paul Simon, and has played and recorded with some important jazz musicians like Dave Liebman, Jeff Ballard, Joe Lovano, John Patitucci, Danilo Perez, Terri Lyne Carrinton, and Jamey Haddad.