# CONTEMPORARY TANGO NOVAFONIC QUARTET

Fabio Furia, bandoneon Gianmaria Melis, violin Marco Schirru, piano Giovanni Chiaramonte, double bass



Past, present and future condensed into a unique and unusual journey through the history of Tango. Fusion and contamination, tradition and innovation, but also balance, technique, imagination and improvisation. The result is an interesting synthesis between the sound world of Jazz and Tango Nuevo. A mélange of strength and passion, energy and pathos, in which classic suggestions are recognized, in the rigor of the composition inspired by the balance of form and the counterpoint of the great masters of the past, but always focusing on contemporary avant-gardes.

An innovative show, in which the dimensions of time and space fold up to meet, guiding the listener in an exciting and seductive journey from the traditional Tango, to the jazz and avant-garde influences of Astor Piazzolla and to Fabio Furia's original compositions. An artistic experience in which the tango reaches its maximum evolution, transformed and revolutionized. Not just music, therefore, but Art in its broadest and most modern sense.

Indeed, **Contemporary Tango** proposes an eclectic and multi-faceted itinerary in which the poetic power of music blends with the technical virtuosity of the artists. A production result of a real path of research and experimentation, based on the comparison and interaction between genres and styles. Sounds become poetry in a musical itinerary in which the refined compositional technique is combined with the profound melodic sensibility and the passionate improvisation, in the executive virtuosity of an all-Italian formation. A deeply jazz and contamination repertoire that fits into an intimately evocative and emotional dimension.

# FABIO FURIA

Fabio Furia, a world-class concert performer, composer and arranger, is considered to be one of the most important bandoneonists in Europe.

Thanks to his intense concert activity, he performed in the most important concert halls the world over, including Parco della Musica di Roma, Dvorak Hall of Rudolfinum in Prague, Auditorium Giovanni Arvedi di Cremona, Bozar Theatre in Brussels, Cagliari's Opera House, the Onassis Cultural Center in Athens, and the Großer Saal in Klagenfürt.

Highly regarded internationally, his talent is known to many Italian and foreign music festivals and institutions, including, Accademia di Santa Cecilia, Lubjana Festival, Stadivari Festival Cremona, I concerti del Quirinale (Rome), Emilia Romagna Festival, "Maggio dei Monumenti" Festival (Naples), "Settimane musicali bresciane". "Gubbio Summer Festival".

He collaborated with prestigious musicians and ensembles, such as: Anna Tifu, Antony Pay, Michel Michalakakos, Franco Maggio Ormezowski, Anne Gastinel, Stefano Pagliani, Jean Ferrandis, Roberto Cappello, Solisti della Scala, Turner String Quartett, Kodàly String Quartett, Budapest String Orchestra, Daniel Binelli, Juan Josè Mosalini, Hiba al Kawas, Salzburg Chamber Soloists, the Kiev Symphony Orchestra, the Baden Baden Symphony Orchestra, Kso Kärtner Sinfonieorchester, the Archimede Quartet, the Wanderer Trio.



He performed as a soloist in Italy, Canada, Mexico, Croatia, Check Republic, Germany, France, Slovenia, Macedonia, Lithuania, Austria, Spain, Japan, Korea, Greece, Lebanon, and the United States.

He is former member and soloist of the Anna Tifu Tango Quartet, Novafonic Quartet, the duo with the Italian guitarist Alessandro Deiana and of the duo with the violinist Gianmaria Melis.

He started studying piano and classical accordion at the age of 7, first as self-taught and then under the guidance of teacher Eliana Zajec in Trieste.

However, he owes a large part of his musical formation to Prof. Corrado Rojac, who for some years in adolescence, gives him instrumental lessons, harmony and counterpoint. Subsequently, at the age of 16, he studied clarinet at the Conservatory of Cagliari. He then graduated with honours in only four years under the guidance of Maestro Roberto Gander.

He studied further with some of the best clarinetists in the world, including Antony Pay, Alessandro Carbonare, and Wenzel Fuchs. In parallel with the clarinet's concert career, he undertook the study bandoneon then he decided to study with the best bandoneon teachers as Juan José Mosalini and graduating brilliantly at the Conservatory of Paris Gennevilliers, under the quidance of Juanjo Mosalini.

He is founder and artistic director of two Cultural Associations, "Anton Stadler" and "ContraMilonga". He is also the creator of important music seasons such as the "International Chamber Music Festival", which this year marks its XXIII edition, "ARTango & Jazz Festival", the "Bandoneon International Masterclass", event able to attract young musicians from all over the world and "Liberevento" an important literary festival of which he is the artistic director for the part of the events music.

He also teaches and organizes both instrument and ensemble music classes and masterclasses for public and private institutions

He founded the Italian Bandoneon Academy with which he organizes masterclasses and concerts with the most important soloists in the world.

Since 2014, until 2018 he teached Bandoneon at the conservatory "P. Da Palestrina" of Cagliari, first bandoneon course in Italy. Thanks to this experience, in June 2018, the MIUR has approved the three-year degree course in Bandoneon which has now become a point of reference for the teaching of the bandoneon, attracting some of the most talented young bandoneonists from all over the world.

He collaborates with the Bandoneon class of Prof. Yvonne Hahn of the Conservatory of Avignon and with CODARTS University in Rotterdam, with whom he has activated a didactic project that has alternate offices in the three conservatories of Cagliari, Avignon and Rotterdam.

His discography includes "ContraMilonga" (2010), "Fabio Furia in concert" (KNS Classical – 2013), Novafonic Quartet (KNS Classical – 2015). A new CD, called "A Los Maestros", with the guitar player Alessandro Deiana is coming soon for the label "Da Vinci Publishing".

He plays a bandoneon 142 from the German factory Alfred Arnold Bandonion and Concertinafabrik Klingenthal, of which he is a collaborator and endorser. He also owns and plays two beautiful historical bandoneon Alfred Arnold "complete nacarado" of 1937 and a "Negro Liso" of 1938 they are of the very few exemplary preserved in perfect condition and totally original.

# GIANMARIA MELIS

Principal Concertmaster of the Teatro Lirico Foundation in Cagliari since 2009, Gianmaria began studying the violin under the guidance of Paolo Marascia, then continued with George Mönche, Igor Volochine, Felice Cusano and Sergey Krylov.

At the age of seventeen he won second prize at the national Mario Benvenuti violin competition, the City of Vittorio Veneto Prize, and the following year he was awarded full marks for his violin diploma at the Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina conservatoire of Cagliari.

Gianmaria perfected his studies in masterclasses with Nicolas Chumachenco and Thomas Brandis, and trained in orchestral courses with the Italian Youth Orchestra, as lead violinist for two years. At the same time, he studied quartet and chamber music with Piero Farulli.

Gianmaria won three international orchestral competitions, at the Arturo Toscanini of Parma, Teatro Lirico of Cagliari and Haydn of Bolzano and Trento Foundations.

Gianmaria has performed with various orchestras: Sinfonica Nazionale of the RAI of Turin, Pomeriggi Musicali of Milan, Filarmonica Toscanini of Parma, Teatro Carlo Felice of Genoa (lead violin of the seconds, assistent leader), Galilei of Florence (Concertmaster for the conducting courses of Carlo Maria Giulini), Sinfonica Haydn of Bolzano and Trento, Sicilian Symphonic Orchestra (lead violin of the seconds).



Over the years he has been invited as guest Concertmaster by orchestras such as: Orchestra of the Teatro Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Orchestra of the Teatro Petruzzelli of Bari, Orchestra Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini, Orchestra of the Teatro Verdi of Salerno.

Gianmaria has performed under the baton of world class conductors, including: Carlo Maria Giulini, Yuri Ahronovich, Lorin Maazel, Frans Brüggen, Donato Renzetti, Gianluigi Gelmetti, Ton Koopman, Trevor Pinnock, Christopher Hogwood, Daniele Gatti, Maurizio Benini, Marko Letonya.

In the chamber music field he has collaborated with prestigious musicians including: Sergej Krylov, Hans-Jörg Schellenberger, Pierre Goy, Eric Sielberger, Giuseppe Gullotta.

Since 2014 Gianmaria has been violinist of the Novafonic Quartet, a formation of soloists and principal parts of leading orchestras, performing a contemporary repertoire of Piazzollian inspiration and jazz.

He regularly holds Masterclasses for advanced instrumentalists. During his career, Gianmaria has performed in France, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, England, Romania, Holland, Austria, United States.

He recently made his début as a soloist at the prestigious Carnegie Hall in New York, playing Beethoven's triple concerto.

He has recorded for the KNS Classical record company, with the Novafonic Quartet and in duo with the pianist Giuseppe Gullotta.

He plays a copy Guarneri "Le Duc" violin made by Philippe Girardin in 2019.

# MARCO SCHIRRU

Born in Cagliari in 1994, he began studying piano at the age of 11 at the "G.P. da Palestrina" Conservatory in Cagliari, where he graduated with ten, honors and honorable mention in the class of Prof. Aurora Cogliandro.

In 2011 he was the absolute winner of the "7th Agimus Music Review for age categories" with a score of 100/100.

In June 2012 he participated in the international event "Maclè: fun in black and white. Concert for 4 hands piano and orchestra of 40 pianos" held in Pescara, at the exhibition of the illustrious tuner Angelo Fabbrini.

In 2015, as part of the "Conservatory Concerts" project, he performed in chamber ensembles at the "G. Arvedi" Auditorium of the Cremona Violin Museum. In the same year, he ranks first in the "1st International Competition-Rito Selvaggi" (Bari).

At the Auditorium of the Cagliari Conservatory, he performs Mozart's triple concert, accompanied by the orchestra of the students of the Institute.

In 2016 he participated, in duo with the violinist Giulia Greco, in the concert review "The great interpreters of music", held at the Municipal Theater of Sassari, and in the review "Sunday in concert 2016", at the Arborense Diocesan Museum of Oristano



Also, in 2016, after passing an audition, he performed Rachmaninov's "Rhapsody on a theme by Paganini" with the orchestra of the Cagliari Conservatory at the Auditorium of the same Conservatory, receiving wide acclaim from critics.

In 2017, in duo with the violinist Giulia Greco, he won the XIV edition of the "Golfo degli Angeli" competition organized by the Cagliari Lions Club, and participated in the "Evening Museums" review at the Vatican Museums.

In the same year, he is among the 12 finalists of the Prize of the Arts - Piano Section.

He attended the Masterclasses of the Masters E.Pace, L.Zilberstein, G.Andaloro, R.Castro, U.Weyand, P.Camicia, JMLuisada, J.Rouvier, G.Tacchino, P. De Maria, D. Merlet for the piano and B.Canino, P.Pacheco, S.Simionescu for chamber music. He graduates in piano with a grade of 110, honors and special mention, followed by teachers A.Cogliandro and R.Scaccia at the Conservatory of Cagliari.

He brilliantly completed the three-year specialization course at the Fiesole Music School in the class of Maestro De Maria and the annual specialization course held by Masters Pietro De Maria, Andrea Lucchesini and Ricardo Castro at the Pinerolo Academy.

He is currently enrolled in the three-year specialization course in the class of Maestro Enrico Pace at the Academy of Pinerolo and attends the two-year course for Master Collaborators from the Academy of the Teatro alla Scala.

He regularly collaborates with the internationally renowned violinist Anna Tifu, with whom in July 2020 he performs at the Teatro La Fenice in Venice.

In July 2020 he participates, as a solo pianist, in the summer artistic program of the Fondazione Teatro Lirico di Cagliari.

# GIOVANNI CHIARAMONTE

He studied double bass at the "N. Paganini" in Genoa under the guidance of the masters E. Zoccoli, A. Lumachi and then of the maestro F. Pianigiani.

He achieves eligibility at the Mediterranean Youth Orchestra, the Italian Youth Orchestra and finally at the Academy of the Teatro alla Scala, where he decides to perfect his studies.

During his career he has collaborated as first double bass with: Orchestra of the Teatro La Fenice in Venice, Teatro Carlo Felice in Genoa, Orchestra of the Municipal Theater of Bologna, Orchestra of the Teatro Lirico of Cagliari, Orquestre Philharmonique de Monte Carlo, Orchestra Arturo Toscanini, Afternoons Musical Orchestra, Sanremo Symphony Orchestra.

He worked as a double bass in a row with the Filarmonica della Scala, Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini, Teatro Regio in Turin and since 2004, he has collaborated with the Italian Swiss Orchestra.

With most of these he has participated in international tours in the United States, Japan, China, Russia and Europe, under the guidance of prestigious conductors.



In 2011 he participated in the 7th edition of the "Carlo Capriata Award" dedicated to the double bass and received the prize. Subsequently he was entrusted with the artistic direction.

He has consistently achieved suitability and recommendations as the first double bass and ranks in the most prestigious Italian opera houses and orchestras.

The most recent are eligibility for the first double bass competition at the Teatro Comunale in Bologna and for the first double bass selection at the Carlo Felice Theater in Genoa.

Parallel to his career in orchestra, he has carried out and continues an intense concert activity with chamber ensembles in Italy and abroad: Orchestra Bailam, Magnasco Quintet, Ensemble Hyperion, Ensemble ContraMilonga, as well as with the accordionist Richard Galliano on the occasion of the Summer Music Festival of Serravalle.

Since 2014 he has been part of the Novafonic Quartet, a group that offers contemporary repertoire of Piazzolla and jazz inspiration.

A year later he began an intense activity with the violinist Anna Tifu with her "Anna Tifu Quartet".

He is Professor of Orchestra at the Teatro Lirico of Cagliari since 2007.

From September 2020 he has held the role of First Double Bass at the Teatro Carlo Felice in Genoa.

He plays an Anonymous Italian double bass from the late 1700s and a "Ruggero Paderni" from Brescia from 1845.

# **TECH SHEET**

# INDOOR PERFORMANCE

(up to 250 seats)

- Stage of 6x8 m
- Stage lighting suitable for reading
- Steinway & Sons or Fazioli piano, with 442 hz tuning (to be done before the musicians arrival and before the concert)
- Double bass, lutherie made, 4 strings, 105/107 string length
- 1 double bass stool
- 2 piano benches
- 3 folding music stands
- Dressing room close to the stage for musicians

# **OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE**

# Amplification for all instruments suitable to the place

- Stage of 6x8 m
- Stage lighting suitable for reading
- Sound: a high quality amplification system (Meyer, D&B, Nexò) is required, properly wired and operating upon the musicians arrival, with 4 monitor speakers (Meyer, D&B, Nexò) on separate lines.
- 2 mixers with integrated effects
- Microphones and stands:
  - 1.2 omnimics for the bandoneon (e.g. AKG 414) with dwarf stands
  - 2. piano
  - 3. double bass
  - 4.1 omnimic for the violin (e.g. AKG 414) with stand

- Steinway & Sons or Fazioli piano, with 442 hz tuning (to be done before the musicians arrival and before the concert)
- Double bass, lutherie made, 4 strings, 105/107 string length
- 1 double bass stool
- 2 piano benches
- 3 folding music stands
- Dressing room (or closed gazebo) close to the stage for musicians

# **STAGE PLAN**















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