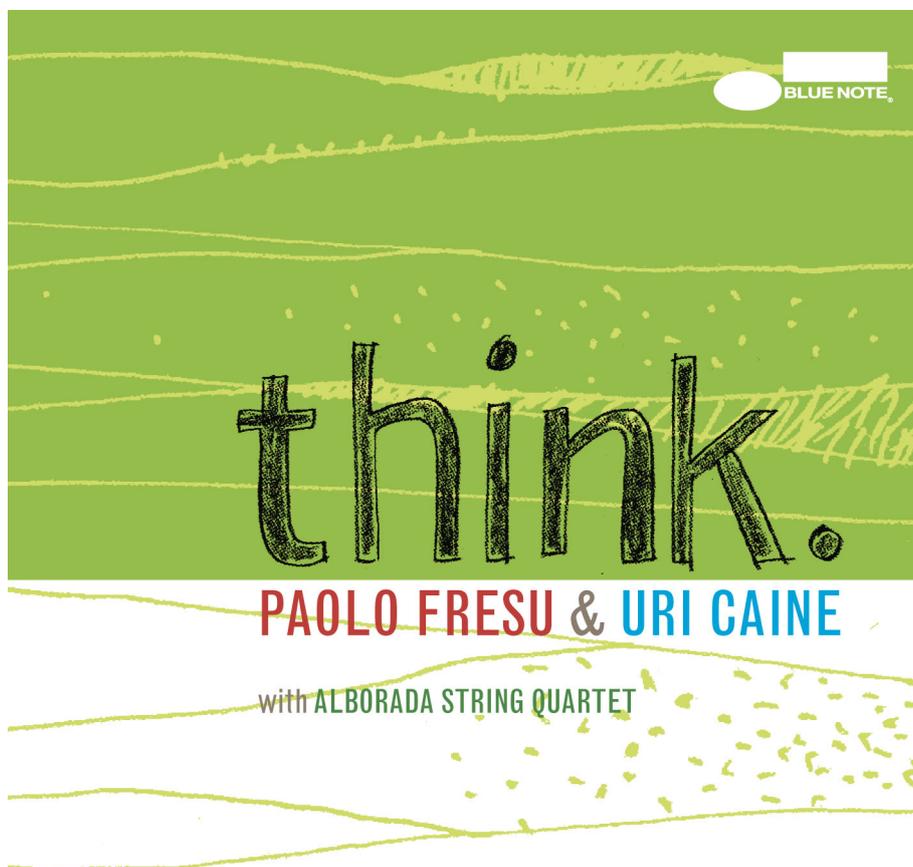


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PAOLO FRESU, URI CAINE

With Quartetto Alborada

Paolo Fresu: tpt, flh & effects – Uri Caine: p
Anton Berovski (v), Sonia Peana (v), Nico Ciricugno (viola), Piero Salvatori (cello)



The “magic couple” formed by Paolo Fresu and Uri Caine has come about through the very happy and lucky encounter of two prominent stars of modern Jazz. This sort of “other version” of the world-famous Keith Jarrett Trio has resolved to venture now into the most classical standards of the history of Jazz, and to go even further, by attempting a really risky “no safety net” selection of very “hot” tracks, which are all the more “critical” due to their widespread popularity.

The choice to play properly pieces that are the very medley and milestones of the history of Jazz might seem very easy at first. Yet, it is far more complex and tricky than it might ‘look’ like.

The duet tackles the challenge with astonishing ease and naturalness, and perfectly succeeds in conveying the feeling that is imprinted in these extraordinary tunes.

After the successful outcome of Things - the hit album recorded in 2006 - Paolo Fresu meets thus again the great American pianist for a new project entitled - ironically - “Think.”.

The assonance of the two titles (Things/Think) reflects the assonances of the two projects, while acutely pointing out the difference between “things” and “thought”, i.e. concrete tangible things and “thinking” about them.

The encounter of these two grand musicians is one of the most enthralling and interesting events emerged on the jazz scene over the last few years. The lyric and intimately dreamy sound of Fresu’s trumpet, his melancholy and onirical timbre, combine perfectly with Caine’s pianism and virtuoso display of a number of quotations ranging over a vast variety of genres, from American pop songs to Blues, from mainstream to progressive jazz, up to classical music, a genre that Uri Caine has frequently revisited according to his personal parameters and yardstick in many of his solo projects of the last decade.

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In "Think.", the two musicians are wonderfully backed by the Alborada String Quartet, a whole-Italian string quartet that is among the most relevant ensemble of the kind. Capitalizing on Caine's arrangements, the Quartet adds on to the performance some more wit and talent that render the album even more attractive.

Besides standards like Darn that dream and Doxy, the collection contains other real jewels, such as an incredible thrilling version of Haendel's Lascia ch'io pianga, and an amazing medley that mingles a classic of the Italian pop-songs repertoire (Non ti scordar di me) with Centochiodi, Paolo Fresu's soundtrack piece to the masterly homonymous film by Ermanno Olmi.

All in all, "Think." is a little masterpiece, an album that makes you feel at peace with the world.

Uri Caine is famous for his visionary reinterpretation of classical repertoires, started as tribute to Gustav Mahler and continued with Robert Schumann's Lieder and Johann Sebastian Bach's Variations by Golberg, published by Winter & Winter. All of these granted Uri such a great success to be invited, to the prestigious Salisburg Classical Festival, with a program dedicated to Mahler.

For these experiences Uri chose variable line-ups, with unexpected appearances, able to compare different musicalities...from European classical tradition to Jazz, Elettronic, Klezmer, rock, qualifying himself as one of the most intelligent and sensitive architects of today's music.

Not surprising, at this point is the encounter with Paolo Fresu, musician also world wide known for being very attentive to different contemporary sounds.

The two musicians met in 2002 in sardinian Berchidda at "Time In Jazz", Festival directed by Paolo Fresu himself.

During the festival Uri played as guest in various occasions with Paolo and his trumpet. He confessed being completely involved by the sounds and atmospheres of the projects he participated.

In those experiences and in this new duo approach, Uri discloses his relationship with Jazz tradition, made of deep knowledge, versatility and respect, which have always been revealed in his numerous sideman appearances.

Since his early age in his hometown, Philadelphia, playing with legends as saxophonist Hank Mobely and contemporary colleagues as clarinet player Don Byron, trumpet player Dave Douglas and violin player Mark Feldman, Uri has always proved to be one of today's most illuminated and creative artists.

The dialogue with Paolo – essentially based on personal and personalized interpretation of "dangerous" Jazz standards – is of extremely high quality, intriguing and fascinating even only on paper also for non connoisseurs.

The logical bind is with Keith Jarret's Trio....the feeling that moves the experiences the same on. Don't miss it!

Uri Caine:

Uri Caine was born in Philadelphia and began studying piano there with Bernard Peiffer. He began playing in bands led by Philly Joe Jones, Hank Mobley, Johnny Coles, Mickey Roker, Odean Pope, Jymmie Merritt and Grover Washington. He attended the University of Pennsylvania and studied music composition with George Rochberg and George Crumb. While in school, he played with many of the visiting musicians who played in Philadelphia including Freddie Hubbard, Joe Henderson, Benny Golson, Phil Woods, Donald Byrd, J.J. Johnson, Stanley Turrentine, and Lester Bowie.

Since moving to New York City, Caine has recorded twelve albums as a leader. His first two CD's "Sphere Music" (JMT/Polygram 1993) and "Toys" (JMT/Polygram 1995) paid homage to the great jazz pianists Thelonious Monk and Herbie Hancock. His third CD, "Urlicht/Primal Light" (Winter & Winter 1996), featured arrangements of the music of Gustav Mahler and won the international "Composer's Hut" award for Best Mahler CD of 1997. In "Wagner in Venezia" (Winter & Winter 1997), Caine arranged the music of Richard Wagner for a small ensemble playing live at the Café Quadri in St. Mark's Square, Venice. His next CD, "Blue Wail" (Winter & Winter 1998), included original compositions for Jazz piano trio and featured Ralph Peterson (drums) and James Genus (bass). That same year while touring Uri recorded "Gustav Mahler in Toblach" (Winter & Winter 1998)live at the Gustav Mahler Festival in Toblach/Dobbacio, Italy. In 1999 he

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released "The Sidewalks of New York" (Winter & Winter) a tribute to early Tin Pan Alley. In 2000 Caine released a version of Schumann's "Dichterliebe" song cycle, "Love Fugue", (Winter & Winter 2000) and a new version of "The Goldberg Variations" (Winter & Winter 2000). In 2001, three new CD's were released- "Solitaire" for solo piano, "Rio" recorded live in Rio de Janeiro with several groups, and "Bedrock3", a trio featuring electric piano with Zach Danziger and Tim Lefebvre.

Caine also composed a ballet for the Vienna Volksoper which premiered in June 2000. The Pennsylvania Ballet performed the "Goldberg Variations" in 2001, choreographed by Val Caniparoli. Caine composed a new version of the "Diabelli Variations" for the Concerto Koln that premiered at the Kempen Festival in 2001 and he has recorded a new Mahler song project and a jazz piano trio project with Drew Gress and Ben Perowsky.

During the past several years, Caine has worked in groups led by Don Byron, Dave Douglas, Terry Gibbs and Buddy DeFranco, Clark Terry, Rashid Ali, Arto Lindsay, Sam Rivers and Barry Altschul, the Woody Herman Band, Annie Ross, the Enja Band, Global Theory and the Master Musicians of Jajouka. He has received grants from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. He has performed at many jazz festivals including What Is Jazz? Festival (New York), North Sea Jazz Festival (The Hague), Montreal Jazz Festival, Jazz Across the Borders (Berlin), The Texaco Jazz Festival (New York), San Sebastian Jazz Festival, Vittoria Jazz Festival, The Newport Jazz Festival, as well as classical festivals including The Salzburg Festival, The Munich Opera, The Holland Festival, The Israel Festival, IRCAM, and others.

Paolo Fresu:

Winner of a wide array of awards, professor, and director of various Italian and international institutions, Paolo Fresu has performed around the world with the most important names of Afro-American music over the past 30 years. He has participated in nearly 300 recordings, some as a leader, others as a sideman, and still other projects mixing ethnic, jazz, world music, contemporary, and ancient musics. Mr. Fresu is artistic director of the Berchidda Festival Time In Jazz, Bergamo Jazz, and the Jazz Seminars in Nuoro (Sardinia). He is also involved in the production of numerous multimedia projects, cooperating with actors, dancers, painters, sculptors, and poets, as well as writing music for film, documentary, video, ballet, and theater pieces. Mr. Fresu lives between Paris, Bologna and Sardinia. His unique trumpet sound is recognized as one of the most distinctive in the contemporary jazz scene.

Born the 10 February 1961 in Berchidda, in the Italian region of Sardinia. He began to study his instrument at the age of 11 in the "Bernardo de Muro" Musical Band of Berchidda. After various experiences in pop music he discovers jazz in 1980 beginning his professional activity in 1982, at first attending the "Seminari Senesi" then recording for RAI-RadioTelevisione Italiana under the direction of Bruno Tommaso. He gets a degree as Perito Elettrotecnico (i.e. electricity technician) in Sassari, then in 1984 he graduates in Trumpet at the Conservatory of Cagliari with the maestro Enzo Morandini and later he attends the faculty of "DAMS - music section" at the University of Bologna. His activities counts over 270 records and more than 2.500 concerts. He lives between Bologna, Paris and Sardinia.

ENSEMBLES

At present he directs or co-directs, as well as his quintet (with Tino Tracanna, Roberto Cipelli, Attilio Zanchi, Ettore Fioravanti, sometimes in the past extended to a sextet with the presence of Gianluigi Trovesi or the Belgian Erwin Vann): the duo with Furio Di Castri; the Trio P.A.F. (Paolo Fresu – Antonello Salis – Furio Di Castri); the Paolo Fresu "Angel" Quartet with Nguyễn Lê, Furio Di Castri and Roberto Gatto (sometimes with the singer Ornella Vanoni, the pianist Jon Balke or the accordionist Antonello Salis as guests); the quartet "Devil" (with Bebo Ferra, Paolino Dalla Porta and Morten Lund); "Heartland" together with David Linx and Diederik Wissels; the duo with Dhafer Youssef (often a trio with the Norwegian Eivind Aarset); the duo with Uri Caine; some other duos with various piano players like Nico Morelli, Michel Grailler, Alain Jean-Marie, Roberto Cipelli, Danilo Rea and Bojan Zulfikarpasic; the project "Fresu & Alborada String Quartet"; "Kind of Porgy and Bess" (with Nguyễn Lê, Antonello Salis, Dhafer Youssef, Morten Lund and Furio Di Castri); "Porgy and Bess" together with the Jazz Orchestra of Sardinia; the "Italian Trumpet Summit" with the trumpet players Franco Ambrosetti, Flavio Boltro, Marco Tamburini and Fabrizio Bosso; and the projects related to traditional Sardinia music "Sonos 'e memoria" (with Elena Ledda, Luigi Lai, the "Su Cuncordu 'e su Rosariu" choir by Santu Lussurgiu, Antonello Salis, Federico Sanesi and others) and "Ethnografie" (with Dhafer Youssef, Elena Ledda, David Linx, Diederik Wissels, Eivind Aarset, Joëll Allouche, the Chamber Orchestra "Gli Arconauti" and others) dated 2003.

Since 1983 he firmly worked with the bands of Paolo Damiani, Roberto Ottaviano, Tiziana Ghiglioni, Bruno Tommaso, Giovanni Tommaso, Mimmo Cafiero, Enrico Rava, Aldo Romano, Nguyễn Lê, the group "Tanit", the Quartetto Palatino (Glenn Ferris, Aldo Romano, Paolo Fresu, Michel Benita), the "Celtic Procession" by Jacques Pellen, "Naples in jazz" together with Maurizio Giammarco, the Trio Erik Marchand – Jacques Pellen – Paolo Fresu, the "Mythscape Quartet" with the Swedish pianist Jon Balke, the group "The Open Trio" together with Furio Di Castri and various percussionists, the "Quartetto Internos", the Quartet "Treya"

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on music by Gabriel Fauré with the Australian pianist Peter Waters, the Quartet "Lyrism" of the French pianist Jean-Marie Machado with Andy Sheppard, the Trio of the German pianist Jens Thomas Ennio Morricone repertoire, the "Quintetto Rava-Fresu" on the repertoire by Chet Baker and Miles Davis, the trio "Prysm", the quintet "Suono e Silenzio", the group "Tales from Vietnam" by Nguyễn Lê, the sextet "Tangoseis", the quartet "Aires tango", the project "Flouradenn" directed by Riccardo del Frà and Annie Ebrel and the quartet of saxophones "Saxes Four Fun". He is presently working within the project on Leo Ferré directed by the pianist Roberto Cipelli with Gianmaria Testa and also with the Macedonian orchestra "Koçani Orkestar" together with Antonello Salis. It is dated 2001 the production of "Sketches of Spain" at the "Teatro del Palladio" in Vicenza with the musical direction of Maria Schneider.

MUSICAL COLLABORATIONS

In addition to his own common musicians he worked with the major Italian artists like Franco D'Andrea, Gianluigi Trovesi, Giorgio Gaslini, Enrico Rava, Bruno Tommaso, Giovanni Tommaso, Massimo Urbani, Enrico Pieranunzi, Maurizio Giammarco, Paolo Damiani, Guido Manusardi, Tiziana Ghigloni, Maria Pia De Vito, Rita Marcotulli, Battista Lena, Gianmaria Testa, Stefano Di Battista, Flavio Boltro, Franco Ambrosetti, Stefano Bollani and others, plus European and American artists like Karl Berger, Kenny Wheeler, John Taylor, David Liebman, Dave Holland, Phil Woods, Misha Mengelberg, Han Benning, Ernst Reijseger, Tony Oxley, Daniel Humair, Aldo Romano, Pierre Favre, Tamia, Gerry Mulligan, Bob Brookmayer, Jean-François Jenny Clark, Albert Mangelsdorff, John Zorn, Palle Danielsson, Riccardo Del Frà, Annie Ebrel, Michel Grailler, Richie Beirach, Jens Thomas, Art Lande, John Abercrombie, Helen Merrill, Jon Christensen, Glenn Ferris, Jerry Bergonzi, Conrad Bauer, Joachim Kuhn, Antonio Pinho Vargas, Farafina, Michel Portal, Richard Galliano, Jon Balke, Ralph Towner, Trilok Gurtu, Gunther Shuller, Jeanne Lee, Mal Waldrom, David Linx, Diederik Wissels, Jean-Marie Machado, Alain Jean-Marie, Lars Jansson, Paul McCandless, Jim Hall, Lee Konitz, Perico Sambeat, Eivind Aarset, Wolfgang Muthspiel, Mathias Ruëgg, Lew Soloff, Dhafer Youssef, Maria Schneider, Stan Sutzman, Andy Shepard, Paul Wertico, Jon Hassell, Uri Caine, Bojan Zulfikarpacic, Vangelis Katsoulis, Buch Morris, Airtó Moreira, Thierry Lang, Toots Thielemans, Kenny Werner, Jan Lundgren and more.

VARIOUS ARTS

The several "artistic invasions" by Paolo Fresu in other disciplines include painting, sculpture, installations, video art, etc. together with several ensembles and working with various artists: Pinuccio Sciola, Tonino Casula, Flavio Piras, Salvatore Ravo, Pilar Cossio Gomez, Gabriele Amadori, and taking inspiration from Sardinian artists like the sculptor Costantino Nivola (Nuoro/Orani 1994), the orator/literate Pietro Casu (Time in Jazz/Berchidda 1995), the writer Salvatore Satta (Cagliari 2002), also producing other works about poetry in Sardinian language (Berchidda, Time in jazz 2001/2002) or collaborating with video-makers like Francesco Casu (Berchidda, Time in jazz 2003). Several original multimedia projects have been created within the activities of the "Seminari jazz" of Nuoro ("Ossi di Seppia", "Mingusiana", "Vorrei essere un Melograno", "Take the "Green" Train", "Deledda, i linguaggi di un Secolo", "Lollove – Il Village del Jazz", "Musicaquatica" and "Le vie del jazz").

INTERNET

www.paolofresu.it (official site)

Quartetto Alborada:

Created in 1996, the Quartetto Alborada has a repertoire that privileges contemporary music, from the early 1900 on, with particular attention to minimalist authors and to the original compositions composed and arranged from contemporary authors expressly for the ensemble and by the members of the quartet themselves.

From the very beginning and with different members, the Quartet's activity developed in two distinct yet correlated directions: on one hand, research and study aimed at enriching their repertoire, starting from the classical studies of each of the musicians, and on the other hand, collaborations to projects active in either jazz, contemporary and world music, among these Teo Ciavarella's Jazz Trio with whom they performed in Italy and abroad.

In 1996, they participated, together with other musicians, to the *Jazz in it*

Festival in Vignola, with Eugenio Colombo and Michel Godard soloists (music by Eugenio Colombo, Giancarlo Schiaffini, Bruno Tommaso and others) and to the international festival *Time in jazz* in Berchidda.

From 1998 to 2002 the Quartet has been involved in Enzo Favata's project *Voyage en Sardaigne*, that combined ethnic suggestions with jazz influences and new-age scents; this project was presented at the 30° *Deutsches Festival* in Frankfurt, at the Lingotto Auditorium in Turin and in all the most important Italian cities.

The Quartet participated in the project "Heartland" by David Linx, Diederik Wissels and Paolo Fresu; currently the Quartet collaborates with artists of international renown such as Paolo Fresu, Sheila Jordan, Billy Drummond,

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Roberto Cipelli, Attilio Zanchi, Rita Marcotulli, Maria Pia De Vito, Daniele di Bonaventura, Angelo Adamo.

LATEST DISCOGRAPHIC PRODUCTIONS:

- Sound-track of *"Il più crudele dei giorni"*, a film about the journalist Ilaria Alpi's case, produced by RAI and Lantia, directed by Ferdinando Vicentini Orgnani, music by Paolo Fresu; the title of the CD is *"SCORES!"* (2003) and it is distributed by CAM.
- Soundtrack of the film *"Te lo leggo negli occhi"* directed by Valia Santella, music by di Paolo Fresu, produced by Nanni Moretti and Sacher Film (2004), the CD is produced by RAI Trade.
- CD *"Ethnografie - Dialoghi Da Un'isola"*, by Paolo Fresu produced by Istituto Superiore Regionale Etnografico della Sardegna and by Time in jazz (2004).
- CD *"Ethos"* (2008) by the Quartetto Alborada with the participation of: Paolo Fresu, Rita Marcotulli, Maria Pia de Vito, Daniele di Bonaventura, Angelo Adamo, DJ Cris with repertoire selections and original pieces composed by the members of the Quartet. The CD, entirely dedicated to the Quartet's repertoire, is produced by Dodicilune Records.

CURRENT PROJECTS:

SCORES! – Paolo Fresu and Alborada String Quartet

IL RITO E LA MEMORIA – encounter of religious music of ancient Sardinian confraternities, classical undertones of the strings and the jazz-based avant-gardism of Paolo Fresu's trumpet and Diederik Wissels' piano, at times enriched by the Mediterranean weavings of the Tunisian Dafher Youssef and of Elena Ledda.

HEART STRINGS – with the American singer Sheila Jordan, Alborada String Quartet, Billy Drummond, Roberto Cipelli and Attilio Zanchi.

CHET BAKER LET'S GET FOUND – with Mauro Grossi, Paolo Fresu, Riccardo Fioravanti, Stefano Bagnoli and Alborada String Quartet.

The basic repertoire of the Quartet embraces works by Eric Satie, Michael Nyman, Karl Jenkins, Alberto Ginastera, John Cage, Gordon Jacob, Philip Glass, Morton Feldmann, Federico Mompou, Paolo Fresu, original compositions composed and arranged by the members of the Quartet and by many contemporary musicians.

Line-up:

ANTON BEROVSKI, violin

Graduated from the Fine Arts Academy of Tirana with excellent results, he then studies in Italy, at the Scuola di Musica di Fiesole and at the Accademia Musicale Chigiana di Siena, under Maestro P. Faruli, obtaining the diploma of merit as first violin of the "Tirana" Quartet.

He continues his specialization in Holland with the "Amadeus" Quartet, then in France where he attends "Ysaye" Quartet's course at the Villecrous Musical Academy, afterwards at the "Il de France" festival where he perfects his technique with the "Alban Berg" quartet, and in particular with Maestro V. Erben.

He has performed as a soloist in important festivals presenting a vast repertoire of concerts for violin and orchestra, for violin and piano and for chamber music.

He has performed in many concerts both as soloist and in chamber music groups; as fist violin, he has worked in the Symphonic Orchestra of the Opera Theatre in Tirana, "Des Jeunes de toute Europe" Orchestra (Menuin Foundation) France, Skopje Philharmonic Orchestra, Macedonia, "Nova Amadeus" Orchestra, Roma, Bologna Chamber Orchestra, Ravenna Chamber Orchestra, Symphonic Orchestra D. Alighieri, "Dimi" Orchestra, Rome, etc. He has recorded for RAI, RT-Skopje, RTA, Radio SDR, Radio Stockholm, Radio Genève. etc.

He was awarded first prize for chamber music in Durazno Albania, the jury's special prize in the international competition for string quartets "Evian", France.

Maestro Pierre Dervaux has referred to Anton Berovski as <Il brillante "violon solo" (first violin) dell'Orchestre des jeunes de toute L'Europe>.

SONIA PEANA, violin

Graduated from the Conservatoire "L. D'Annunzio" in Pescara under Maestro Franco Mezzena's guide, she has perfected her technique at the Musical Academy in Pescara and she attended many courses among which those held by: Boris Belkin (at the Accademia Chigiana), Rovighi (specialized in baroque music) and Enzo Porta.

She has also attended jazz classes at the seminars in Nuoro, a stage with Uri Caine and annual courses with Bruno Tommaso and Giorgio Gaslini. She then moved to Bologna, where she graduated from the D.A.M.S. (in Music).

She has an intense concert activity both as soloist and as chamber musician, performing in Italy and abroad. Important collaborations, as soloist, with many artists as Andrea Bocelli, Stefano Nosei.

She has recorded, with various orchestras and other groups, many CDs of classical, contemporary, world and jazz music. She appears in many soundtracks, she has also participated in many broadcasts for RAI Radiotelevisione Italiana with artists such as Enya, Lucio Dalla, Iskra Menarini and Cheryl Porter.

Original founder and first promoter of Alborada String Quartet.

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NICO CIRICUGNO, viola

Born in 1973, he brilliantly graduated in viola in 1996 under the guide of Maestro Silvio Di Rocco at the Conservatoire "N. Piccinni" in Bari.

He has attended the Accademia Musicale Pescarese and many specialization courses (Lanciano, Ravello).

As First Viola, he has collaborated with many chamber groups and symphony orchestras, performing in important concert halls.

He has collaborated with many famous artists: M. Maisky, M. Quarta, B. Canino, Y. Grubert, R. Bruson, C. Rossi, A. Diaz, directed by prestigious conductors such as R. Muti e G. Khun.

His interest for jazz music has lead him to perform with artists such as P. Fresu e S. Di Battista.

He performs with G. Occhipinti's Global Music Nonet, participating in many festivals ("Music on Music" in Vienna, "Jazz à Luz") and he recorded for 'Between the lines' record label.

He has also recorded for Bongiovanni, BMG and Sony.

As soloist, he has recorded several soundtracks for RAI and Mediaset.

At the present time, he holds the position of Prima Viola in the DIMI orchestra.

PIERO SALVATORI, cello

Born in Rome, he studies and graduates under the guide of Maestro Ferdinando Calcaviello.

He continues his studies with many international artists, winning competitions and scholarships.

Intense concert activity both as first cello and as chamber musician with various Italian orchestras.

Collaboration as soloist with many important pop artists, as Claudio Baglioni, Renato Zero, Lucio Dalla, Gino Paoli.

He's also active in soundtrack productions for cinema and theatre.

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