



## GIANLUIGI TROVESI & MARCO REMONDINI

### *"Mediterranean Woods"*

*"Once upon a time--a king!" my little readers will immediately say. No, kids, you got it wrong! Once upon a time there was a piece of wood" ... In fact two!*

The incipit of Carlo Collodi's Pinocchio and Trovesi and Remondini's final line are the key to understanding the musical meaning of this duo that tells the story of the encounter between two Mediterranean "woods." The woods constituting the soul and body of the musical instruments of two important names in the contemporary national music scene. The "hard" ones from Africa smelling of the Mediterranean of Gianluigi Trovesi's clarinets and the "sweet" ones from the soundbox of Marco Remondini's cello that come from the forests of the Dolomite valleys ancestrally emerged from the waters of Mare Nostrum.

Son of Trovesi's octet, this duo, years ago born with the amusing name "TroveRemo" (from the names of the two), now finds a new version projectedly dedicated in a theatrical sense to the world of ethnic research of Mediterranean sounds. In the duo's live set, therefore, one can experience a kind of Ulysses-style musical journey in Odyssey with Balkan digressions in klezmer style and flavors classically connected to Mediterranean sound harmonies. An essentially "acoustic" journey with minimal help from Remondini's electronics, used - as Brian Eno taught - in the "intelligent" world of sound support.

A path told by the two that, taking the audience by the hand, meets the sound of the world we live in.

### • **Gianluigi Trovesi**

*"With his music Gianluigi Trovesi has managed to create a musical world that is immediately recognizable and at the same time completely original, drawing inspiration from a diversity of sources that is entirely personal." His composer style and instrumental voice place him at the level of musicians who have practically defined the concept of "European jazz," "inspired by the American tradition without being a slavish imitation of it." F. Martinelli*

He graduated in clarinet with M° Giuseppe Tassis, studied harmony, counterpoint and fugue with M° Vittorio Fellegara and performed in classical, dance and jazz ensembles. After important experiences with Franco Cerri and Giorgio Gaslini, he won the national competition for first clarinet and alto sax soloist of the National Orchestra (Big band) of Rai in Milan.

His first records under his own name Baghet and Cinque piccole storie recorded in the late 1970s made him known on the Italian and international jazz scene.

Since 1978, first with his Trio (Italian Record Critics' Award), then with the Octet - From G to G (Soul Note), 5 stars of the U.S. magazine "Downbeat"; Les hommes armés (Soul Note) and Fugace (Ecm) Top Jazz best group, best record and best musician in the referendums of "Musica Jazz" - he asserts himself by developing a language that associates jazz with memories and codes of different musics, popular and cultured.

With accordionist Gianni Coscia he has created a long musical partnership that has led them to perform in halls all over the world. To their credit are several CDs that have met with unanimous acclaim and decidedly rare success for such a peculiar duo. Other duo projects worthy of absolute note are those with pianists Umberto Petrin and Israeli Anat Fort, as well as with cellist and multi-instrumentalist Marco Remondini from Mantua.

In 1998 the French festivals of Coutances, le Mans and La Villette in Paris commissioned him to write a suite inspired by Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, later recorded in 2000 for Enja. Many orchestras invite him to perform his compositions: the WDR Big Band of Cologne, with which he made the CD Dedalo (Enja), arrangements in collaboration with Corrado Guarino, guest Markus Stockhausen; International Orchestra of Guimaraes; Bergen Big Band; Brussels Jazz Orchestra, guest Dave Douglas; Symphony Orchestra of the Province of Bari; Big Band of the Czech Republic; Big Band of the Conservatory of Lucerne; Big Band of Slovenia. The Swiss Italian Symphony Orchestra commissioned a work dedicated to Thomas Mann's The Magic Mountain, which was presented in the summer of 2011 on tour in Switzerland.

With the Mousiké Philharmonic he makes Profumo di Violetta (Ecm, 2008), a journey through Italian opera from Monteverdi to the 20th century.

He shares a trio with Umberto Petrin and Fulvio Maras, with whom he recorded Vaghissimo ritratto (Ecm, 2004), with music by Monteverdi and Orlando di Lasso, Luigi Tenco and Jacques Brel. Another trio features him together with musicians from the Bergamo area from which he comes.

He has participated in projects and recordings by numerous musicians, Italians - in particular Paolo Fresu and Enrico Rava - and foreigners Kenny Wheeler, Misha Mengelber, Conny Bauer, Anthony Braxton, Keith Tippett, Cecil Taylor, Misha Mengelberg, Clarinet Summit, Peter Kowald, Gunther Sommer, Zhivaro, Michel Portal,



Louis Scavis, and is a historical member of the Italian Instabile Orchestra, a national ensemble that brings together the best musicians of the Italian avant-garde.

For L'Espresso's Jazz Italiano series with his quintet he recorded live at the Casa del Jazz in Rome (2007) with special guest Enrico Rava.

Many collaborations in the "baroque sphere": with Christina Pluhar's ensemble L'Arpeggiata, recording All'improvviso - where jazz and traditional music come together in the improvisational spirit of the baroque and touring all over the world; with the ensemble La Venexiana, with whom in 2011 he brought on stage at the Halle Handel meets jazz festival; with Attilio Cremonesi and the Vienna String Orchestra (2010); with violinist and conductor Stefano Montanari.

In 2003 he resumed performing with the Triumphal Quartet: Manfred Schoof, Barre Phillips, Gunter Sommer, with whom he retraced the paths of free improvisation.

For Cinema he composed, together with Gianni Coscia, the music for the films *Mi piace lavorare: mobbing* by Francesca Comencini, and *Liscio* by Claudio Antonini; he collaborated on the works of Luigi Cinque and the Swiss film *Bread for All*, music by Christoph Baumann and Jacques Siron.

For Theater, together with Gianni Coscia he staged *In search of a voice*, and participated in Paolo Damiani's show *I kiss your hands*, with Sonia Bergamasco, Fabrizio Gifuni, Danilo Rea, and Rita Marcotulli. He writes music for Literature and Poetry, collaborating with Giuseppe Cederna and on several projects by Stefano Benni. For thirty years he has collaborated with Paolo Damiani, who also wanted him as soloist in his edition of the French Orchestre National de Jazz; with Bruno Tommaso, with whose arrangements he recorded, among other things, *Around small fairy tales*, together with the Enea Salmeggia Chamber Orchestra

(4 1/2 "Downbeat" stars), and with Enrico Intra, who has made many programs hinging on his compositions. The Barga Jazz festival dedicated its entire 2001 edition to him and his music.

He was the subject of the dissertations of Dr. Luigi Sforza (Dams of Bologna) and Dr. Annette Maye (Hochschule für Musik Köln), and he is the protagonist of the documentary dedicated to him *Il cortile della musica* by Sergio Visinoni (Lab80 Film).

For artistic merits he was awarded the titles of Officer of the Italian Republic by Italian President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, Chevalier de l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres (République Française) and Commendatore dell'ordine al merito della Repubblica Italiana by Italian President Giorgio Napolitano.

### • **Marco Remondini**

A sax and cello graduate, he writes music for theater, dance and for himself.

He won, in 1991, the Jazz Contest, with Mauro Negri, Simone Guiducci and Riccardo Biancoli, and in 1999 he won the famous Recanati contest, with the Scraps orchestra. Since 1991 he has collaborated in various projects with Gianluigi Trovesi, including a duo ("TroveRemo") that has now become "Mediterranean Woods."

He has recorded several CDs with him (the last ones for ECM in which he arranged some of the work). Besides the already mentioned, he has shared the stage with: Paolo Fresu, Günther Sommer, Gianni Coscia, Fausto Beccalossi, Rudi Migliardi, Arturo Testa, Massimo Greco, Franco Battiato and such theater and cultural figures as Omero Antonutti, Gianni Franceschini, Paolo Rossi, Vincenzo Cinaschi, Alda Merini, Pietro Nuti, Adriana Innocenti, Lella Costa, Bebo Storti, Giuliano Brunazzi, Maurizio Donadoni, Piergiorgio Odifreddi, Valeria Solarino, Flavio Oreglio, Davide Riondino, Oreste Castagna, Ivana Monti, Laura Lattuada, puppeteer Giorgio Gabrielli, Laura Corradi's Ersilia danza company, and dancer Chiara Olivieri. In pop, he collaborated on Giuni Russo's latest works. He often and willingly works with video, drawings, dance, prose and mixing of languages in general. He has, in this regard, a project revolving around the figure (from Casteldariense) of Tazio Nuvolari, including original musical material, dance, documents, drawings and testimonies; and others, on the theme of "travel," with Roberta Visentini.