

PAOLO RUSSO - pianist, bandoneonist and composer

"Welcome to Paolo Russo's unique music universe: a journey across Italian flavours, classical tones, Nordic landscapes, free improvisations, with a distant echo of Argentinean tango"



Born in Pescara (Italy) in 1969, he lives in Copenhagen (Denmark) since 1996. He started his studies with the cembalist Chiara Tiboni and graduated at "Conservatorio L. D'Annunzio" in Pescara, in 1993 (teacher: Rachele Marchegiani). In 2002, he graduated at the prestigious Rytmsk Musikkonservatorium in Copenhagen. During the past 23 years, he developed a very intense music activity, with performances all around Europe, as well as Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Japan, Faroe Islands, Thailand, Tanzania, Mozambique, Algeria, Russia, USA, Greenland and Cuba. He studied in **New York** with **Richie Beirach** (1995) and in **Buenos Aires** with **Néstor Marconi** (2004/2013).

In 2001, he started playing the bandoneon and discovered a new way of expressing his inner voice, including it more often in his own productions. Paolo has so far released 15 albums ("**Alchemy**" – Splasch Records 2004; "**Oltretango**" – Dodicilune 2005; "**Doble Anima**" – Dodicilune 2007; "**Nuevo trio porteño**" – Bro Recordings 2008; "**Il segreto**" – Bro Recordings 2009; "**Evocándote**" – Bro Recordings 2010; "**Archipelago**" – Gateway 2013; "**Fellini Goes Jazz**" – Zina Zinetti Music 2014; "**Bandoneon Solo – Vol. I**" – Zina Zinetti Music 2015; "**Kattegat**" – Zina Zinetti Music 2016;

"**Tangology**" – Storyville 2017; "**Bandoneon Solo – Vol. II**" – Zina Zinetti Music 2017; "**Bandoneon Solo – Vol. III**" – Zina Zinetti Music 2018; "**Overland**" – Odradek Records 2019; "**Imaginary Soundtrack**" – Odradek Records 2019) – and recorded on over 50 albums of various artists. He has collaborated with many different international musicians. Among these, **Stefano Bollani**, **Paolo Fresu**, **Pablo Ziegler**, **Eliel Lazo**, **Nico Gori**, **Jesper Bodilsen**, **Minino Garay**, **Karima Nayt**, **Josefine Cronholm**, **Thommy Andersson**, **Caroline Henderson**, **Poul Krebs**, **Etta Cameron**, **Bo Stief**, **Lelo Nika**, **Gianluigi Trovesi**, **Diego Figueiredo**, **Diego Schissi**, **Kenny Werner**, **Thomas Clausen**, **Bobby Ricketts**, **Ruslan Vilensky**, **Harold López-Nussa**, **Calixto Oviedo**, **Julie Eskær**.

He has worked also as composer and soloist for string quartet, string orchestra, symphony orchestra and other ensembles, as well as for theatre, film and TV. He has performed in some of the most important concert halls in the world: **Berliner Konzerthaus (Berlin-2009)**; **Musikverein (Wien-2012)**; **Carnegie Hall (New York City-2014)**; **Symphony Space (New York City-2016)**. His instrumental work **Tangology**, composed for octet (with the brilliant interpretation of the Ensemble Midtvest), was presented in New York City, in Italy and in Denmark in 2016.

His solo work "**Bandoneon Solo Vol. II – Originals**", an anthology of original compositions for bandoneon, both as CD and book (sheet music) was released in October 2017 and defined a *masterpiece* by the great Argentine Maestro **Néstor Marconi** (who also wrote the line notes for the book), while his last work **Imaginary Soundtrack**, inspired by the magic of Italian film music, is a brave attempt of presenting a soundtrack without a movie, inviting the audience to create, while listening, their own pictures, characters, scenography and dialogues. Furthermore, **Eskar Trio meets Paolo Russo**, is a new collaboration with one of the most prominent and active Scandinavian classical piano trios, where Paolo composed and arranged new music specifically for the ensemble. Finally, in February 2018, Paolo completed his first **Concerto for Bandoneon and Chamber Orchestra**, which will be premiered and recorded in Serbia, November 2019, together with the Vojvodjanska Filharmonija from Novi Sad, conductor Thommy Andersson.