

# ALEXANDRA GRIMAL

**soprano & tenor saxophones  
composer**



## coming recordings in 2008

Alexandra Grimal Trio for the French label Futura-Marge (Emmanuel Scarpa, drums, Antonin Rayon, organ) 30th of June, Live at the Sunset in Paris.

Alexandra Grimal Quartet for the Italian label CAM Jazz (Giovanni di Domenico, piano, Manolo Cabras, double bass, João Lobo, drums) July 2008, La Buissonne.

Frederic Norel "Inside" Orchestra (Benjamin Moussay, piano, Jean-Marc Foltz, clarinets, Arnault Cuisinier, double bass) May 2008.

Alexandra Grimal-first prize in Avignon «Grand Prix du Tremplin Européen de Jazz 2007» with her band «Alexandra Grimal Quartet», third prize with the same band in the «Concours National de Jazz de La Défense, Paris 2007» and winner with congratulations of the judges in the International Jazz Contest for Young Jazz Soloists, Fribourg 2007 (Switzerland) under the presidency of Martial Solal- explores new areas and works with such artists as Nelson Veras, Édouard Ferlet, Dré Pallemmaerts, Manolo Cabras, Jean-Jacques Avenel, John Betsch...

Her musical research ranging from traditional to free jazz, including rock, experimental and original compositions was supported by grants awarded by the Paris Council after her recording of «Les 43 couchers de soleil» with the drummer Toma Gouband, as well as by the Socrates Exchange Programme which enabled her to study at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki (Finland 2003).

She is an artist in residence at the «Studio des Variétés» (Paris october 2007) for the creation of «Respire» co-produced by «Les Jeunesses Musicales de France». She was also an artist in residence at the jazz club «La Fontaine» in Paris (2005-2006) and at the Banff Center for the Arts (2006).

Born in Cairo in 1980, Alexandra Grimal started music at the age of 5 with classical piano. At 15, in Paris, she was introduced to the saxophone. She received her master's degree at the Royal Conservatory of The Hague (the Netherlands) in 2005 under the direction of John Ruocco. She has also been a student in the «Conservatoire National Supérieur de Paris» (CNSM) and in the Sibelius Academy of Helsinki (Finland), with the Socrates Exchange Programme. She attended the Banff Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music 2007 under the guidance of Dave Douglas.

In different bands, clubs and festivals Alexandra has played in Belgium, France, Italy (Sardinia), Portugal, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Finland. Accompanied by such players as pianists Jarmo Savolainen, Eric Vermeulen, Giovanni di Domenico, Jozef Dumoulin, Edouard Ferlet, Augusto Pirodda, Harmen Franje, Xavier Lopez, Yaron Herman, Matteo Carrus, organists Antonin Rayon, Rhoda Scott, bass players Manolo Cabras, Claus Kaasgaard, Uffe Krokfors, Uli Glaszmann, Jean-Jacques Avenel, Chris Jennings, Brice Soniano, Eric Surmenian, Jacques Greg, Sylvain Romano, Ruben Samama, Stéphane Kerecki, Guido Zorn, drummers Antonio Pisano, Andre Sumelius, Marek Patrman, Toma Gouband, Eric Thielemans, Dré Pallemmaerts, Simon Goubert, John Betsch, Steve Mc Craven, Patrick Goraguer, Joao Lobo, Anne Pacey, Emmanuel Scarpa, guitarists Nelson Veras, Pierre Perchaud, saxophonists Robin Verhagen, Amy Gamlen, singer Lynn Cassiers...

Since 1998, some notable collaborations include :

- With contemporary dancers Yasmine Hugonnet et Maxime Iannarelli, dancers and choreographers and graduates of the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Paris and Rotterdam Conservatory (Synalephe Company)
- With artist Marie Preston (graduate of École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris) : «Et nerf gît» (2002), and «Quand la main dessine» (2005).
- With the video artist Antonia Fritche (graduate of the Royal Academy of Art, The Hague, the Netherlands, and from Studio National des Arts Contemporains, Le Fresnoy, Lille, France): «Delusions» (2003).
- With the composer Ben Shemie in 2006 (Banff Centre for the Arts, Canada)

### **festivals/clubs**

Festival du Maizet (2006), Calvi 2005, Calvi 2006, Duc des Lombards (Paris), Les 7 Lézards, La Fontaine (Paris), L'Archiduc (Bruxelles), Festival de Poche 2007 (Paris), Festival au Féminin 2007, Les Trois Frères, L'Olympic, Lucca Jazz Donna Festival (Italie), Hot Club de Gand (Belgique), Hot Clube do Portugal (Lisbonne), T Vedras Jazz Festival (Portugal), Sounds (Bruxelles), Woma Jazz Festival 2007 (Modena-Italy), Festival Jazz en Plein Air 2007 (La Réunion Island)...

### **artist in residence**

La Fontaine « Carte Blanche » november/december 2005

Banff Centre for the Arts, Canada, november/december 2006

Les 7 Lézards « Carte Blanche » march 2007

Studio des Variétés for the creation of « Respire » co-produced by «Les Jeunesses Musicales de France» october 2007

### **discography**

Ruben Samama Quintet, « Hotaru», label Opa Records (Pays-Bas), 2007.

Julio Resende Quartet, label Clean Feed (Portugal), 2008.

### **prizes and awards**

Grand Prix du Tremplin Européen de Jazz d'Avignon 2007 (France) with Alexandra Grimal Quartet, 1st prize

Concours National de Jazz de La Défense 2007 (France) with Alexandra Grimal Quartet, third group prize

International Contest for Young Jazz Soloists of Fribourg 2007 (Switzerland) winner with congratulations of the judges under the presidency of Martial Solal

### **grants**

Aide à la création Paris Jeunes Talent/Mairie de Paris 2005 (France) for the band «Les 43 couchers de soleil» (duo with the drummer Toma Gouband)

Banff Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music, 2007 (Canada), scholarship

Banff Residency Program, 2006 (Canada), scholarship

Socrates Exchange Program, 2003 Sibelius Academy of Helsinki (Finlande), scholarship

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