

GIAMPAOLO CASATI

TRUMPET, CORNET, ARRANGER, CONDUCTOR

Born in Genoa in 1959, where he awarded a diploma at the "N. Paganini" conservatory in 1985, he has been performing as concert artist, music teacher and Big Band/Combo Jazz arranger since several years.

First remarkable collaborations start in 1980: among them Gianni Basso's A.T. Big Band, Tullio De Piscopo's Quartet and Giorgio Gaslini's Octet.

In 1991 he leads a drumless trio, with Rosario Bonaccorso as bass player and Alessio Menconi as a guitarist. In the same year he and Piero Leveratto form the "Bansigu Big Band" and he assumes its leadership.

During these years he has played in festivals and concerts all over Europe, USA, China and Japan playing with several of the most important American jazzmen including: Benny Golson, Lee Konitz, Clifford Jordan, Ben Riley, Joe Lovano, Slide Hampton, Steve Lacy, Jimmy Cobb, John Hicks, Carla Bley, Steve Swallow.

In 2002 and 2006 was touring around Europe with the Carla Bley big band playing in the biggest festivals and recording the two last CD of the band.

He has recorded about fifty records, two of them as solo artist and two as conductor of the Bansigu Big Band. Moreover he has taken part in several radio and TV programs and in the recording of soundtracks for movies and plays.

He has been teacher at Italian conservatory in Alessandria and Genova, teacher and conductor at the "Louisiana Jazz Club" music school in Genoa and at the International Siena Jazz training courses; at the "N. Paganini" conservatory he has taught Jazz orchestra practice and has held several seminars in Italy, at Marseille Conservatory in France and at the North Carolina Duke University in USA.

Since 1999 he has been Art Director and teacher of trumpet, jazz improvisation and big band at the "Giuseppe Conte Music School" of Genoa where he also conducts the "Conte Big Band"

In 2007 he found the "ConteYouth Big Band" which won the first prize at the international orchestras contest Victor de Sabata in S.Margherita Ligure.