

Jon Sass' Souluba Band

Breeze of Life

Breeze of Life is an original journey rooted in a sound of the bass tuba and voice. The music is a mix of gourmet food for the soul in a blend of generations. The tuba player and singer of the band are father and son who set out to share their musical worlds. The formation and music are both original, blending a range of stylistic vocabularies flavoring the music, from Jazz, Funk, R&B, Latin and Caribbean elements yet, sets its own niche.

SOULUBA mirrors seeds planted from recent generations of singers in Jon's family. For Jon, there is without a doubt a connection between his musical bond with Jonny and Jon's father, a lead Gospel singer who he has never met.

Having grown up in Harlem, New York City at a time where the quality of creative integrity and the high humanity generated from the music of 60's & 70's remains, as a strong influence for Jon's vision with the band. Although technology is strongly connected to the lifestyle of today's younger generations, music shared, can be a space where the inner child of all generations and cultures meet, sing and speak, planting seeds for generations to come.

Lineup:

Jon Sass - Tuba, Rap

Jonny Sass - Vocals, E-Bass

Christian Bakanic - Keyboards, Accordion

Eldis La Rosa Monier - Sax, Flute, Percussion

Julian Beran - Drums



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Tracklisting

01. Fantasia (3:51)
02. Half of a Golden Heart (4:01)
03. Walk Inside (4:19)
04. If I Make It Home -Interlude (1:38)
05. Breeze of Life (5:00)
06. Scudaboot's Dance (4:21)
07. Where is the Sun (5:09)
08. Blue Lights (4:11)
09. Found (5:13)
10. Bassblowaz Club (2:36)
11. Slide (2:22)
12. Whence (4:54)



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Jon Sass - TUBA



Jon's life with music is rooted in the state of Virginia, when his Grandfather played the blues with his guitar telling a stories out of his life. His father was a lead gospel singer. Jon's youth was spent growing up in New York City and there he attended the well know Music and Art High School, graduating soon after with an invitation to play in Europe. He then attended Boston University sharing commutes between Vienna New York and Boston. As a widely celebrated tubist, Jon is widely recognized today as a true Groove Master and uniquely versatile. Born in New York City, Jon's influences are rooted in Jazz, R&B, Soul as well as Classical music. His imitable approach on the tuba and

soulfully penetrating sound has given him a truly unique solo career being one of the few tubists in the world who creates their own music and performance concepts. Jon's has made a tremendous impact on the ears of Jazz and Classical listeners globally. Arguably one of the most creative artist playing tuba, he can be heard on over 80 recordings. The beginning of the 21st century marked the start of Jon's solo career. He has established himself as a solo artist featured at major events, European Big-bands to Classical chamber Orchestras, Symphonic Wind Ensembles, International Brass as well as Tuba and Euphonium events. as well as many feature events. Jon has been featured together with artists such as Ivan Neville, Bobby Shew, Steven Mead, Dave Taylor, Arkady Shilkloper, Wolfgang Puschnig, and Millagros Pinera. Other groups where Jon was featured was Heavy Tuba and Jon Sass, Vienna Art Orchestra. Jon has played, recorded and toured world-wide with the creme de la creme of musicians such as Vince Mendoza, Hazmat Modine, Peter Wolf, Ricky Ford, Brass Quintet of the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonic, Art of Brass Vienna, Diagalev Festival Orchestra, , Ray Anderson, James Spaulding, Michelle Rosewoman, David Murray, Sunny Murray, Butch Morris, Leon Thomas, Peter Erskine, Frank Foster, Erika Stucky, Henry Threadgill, Linda Tillery and the Heritage Cultural Choir, Eric Bibb and Howard Johnson' Gravity. Jon composes his own music and has arranged music for the James Brown Horns. Jon has several recorded compositions, developed Creative Impulse a basis for seminars and courses, has written play along books from Editions BIM and TMV records, developed a multi-media children's show called "Sassy the Tuba" and in recent years, a team building seminar called The Corporate Groove



Jonny Sass - VOCALS, BASS



Der Sohn des Tubaspielers Jon Sass, wuchs in Wien und Florida auf. Der ehemalige Leistungssportler hat sich das Singen mit 18 Jahren autodidaktisch angeeignet. Innerhalb kürzester Zeit fing er an seine eigenen Lieder zu komponieren. Zu seinen musikalischen Einflüssen zählt er Soul, RnB, Rock, Funk, Hip-Hop und Jazz. Im Jahr 2012 ging er mit der österreichischen Rock/Electronic Band „Sofa Surfers“ auf Tour. Auf deren aktuellstem Album, Superluminal, das 2013 den Amadeus Award in der Kategorie "Alternativ" gewann, ist Jonny als Sänger und Co-Komponist zu hören.

Auch in seinem neuesten Projekt, in dem er sich zum ersten Mal musikalisch mit seinem Vater verbündet, kreiert er durch die Mischung diverser Genres einen modernen und einzigartigen Sound.

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Christian Bakanic - KEYBOARDS –ACCORDION

Christian Bakanic, an Austrian accordionist and composer, studied folk music at the Johann Joseph Fux conservatory in Graz, classical accordion at Graz University of Arts and has already made his mark as a jazz musician in Austria. His musical approaches and experiences blend subtly in his compositions and combine the complex spontaneity of jazz, the temperamental passion of Tango Nuevo, and the disciplined momentum of European classicism with multifaceted traditions of European folk music. The essence of Christian Bakanic's work is the steady motion, the continuous exchange, and not least the exciting search for new potentials. Curiosity and passion fuel his creative engine, whilst he convinces an audience with authenticity and virtuosity.

"The accordion owes the radical improvement of its image over the last years not least to virtuosos like Christian Bakanic. The musician, who, besides the accordion, plays bandoneón, Steirische Harmonika, piano, and percussions, is known from the highly acclaimed formations Beefólk and Folksmilch, as well as his excellent Trio Infernal, which can be classified as modern jazz. The fact that the star pianist Markus Schirmer hired Bakanic for his project Scurdia is yet further evidence of his mastery and reputation."



Julian Berann - DRUMS

Wurde in Wien geboren und wuchs dort in einem sehr musikalischen Haushalt auf. Er begann bereits als Kind, inspiriert durch seine Mutter, die Schlagzeugin Angela Berann, sich für Rhythmen zu interessieren und spielt seit seinem 4. Lebensjahr Schlagzeug, bereits früh beeinflusst durch die Beats von Art Blakey, Dennis Chambers, John Bonham, Billy Cobham.

Sein weitgefächerte Musikgeschmack der von Jazz, Pop, Electronics bis zu Punk und Hip Hop reicht ließ ihn musikalisch kontinuierlich wachsen. Seit seinem 12. Lebensjahr spielt Julian Berann in Bands aller Stilrichtungen, war bei einigen Theaterstücken am Burgtheater und der Scala und bei zahlreichen Studioeinspielungen für diverse Projekte beteiligt. Er spielte bei Touren im In- und Ausland unter anderem mit James Hersey. Julian zeichnet sich durch seinen eigenen Stil, Sound, Groove, und größtes Feingefühl am Schlagzeug aus.



Eldis La Rosa Monier – SAX, FLUTE, PERCUSSION

Born in Santiago de Cuba, Eldis started his musical education at the age of seven and graduated at the Conservatory Esteban Salas and the Escuela Profesional de Música (Saxophone and Percussion). He played in numerous Cuban bands (Edición Sonera, Los Kinnin, La Orquesta del Cabaret Tropicana) and was a member of the Brass Band of Santiago de Cuba, the oldest cultural institution in the city. In Havana he taught at the Escuela Nacional de Artes (ENA) and worked as musical arranger for the renowned Saxophon Quartet HabanaSax.

He was also guest of honor of the Radio & TV Orchestra and the Symphony Orchestra of Poland Warsaw.

Eldis is working as saxophone and percussion instructor the Jazz Summer Academy in Krakow.

