

BIOGRAPHY

Zdenko Ivanusic, saxophone player and composer, a dynamic member of the Croatian music scene since 1990. My experience in classical music, jazz, fusion and funk allow me a unique approach in most musical settings, from a symphonic orchestra, chamber ensembles to a big band, a saxophone quartet or a small band.

As the leader of the ***Donna Lee Saxophone Quartet, Funk Elastic, Zdenko Ivanusic Quartet***, I am focused on promoting my own compositions and original arrangements of jazz standards. In composing and playing, polyrhythmic and polytonality is frequently employed, as well as emotional intensity and improvisational clarity.

I was principal alto chair in the Croatian Army Symphonic Wind Orchestra for seventeen years (1992-2009). I've been playing as a part-time musician with the Zagreb Philharmonic, Croatian Radiotelevision Symphonic Orchestra, Croatian Radiotelevision Jazz Orchestra, Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb and Zagreb City Theatre "Komedijska". I was soloist and lead alto in HGM Jazz Orchestra Zagreb, under the leadership of Austrian band leader Sigi Feigl since it was founded in 2002 to 2006. I also collaborate with well-known Croatian musicians and popular ensembles such as *Mr. Dynamite (I'm also music director/arranger for this band)*, *General Woo - Tram 11*, *Brain Holidays*, *Soul Fingers*, *Songkillers*, *Soul Shadows*, *Freak Out Band*, *Neki Novi Klinci*, *Bučersi*, *Swing Again*, *Swingers Band*, etc.. I shared the stage with many distinguished musicians such as Randy Brecker, Bob Mintzer, Don Menza, Bobby Shew, John Riley, Earl Gardner, Peter Herbolzheimer, Kevin Mahogany, Charles Tolliver, to name a few. I also got the opportunity to play with the great Duke Ellington Orchestra in Zagreb as substitute alto sax.

I released four albums at ***Zivaldo Records***, "***Four Odd***" and "***Mellow***" (*Donna Lee Saxophone Quartet*) and "***Lost in HTML***" and "***Free Fall***".

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