

Reto Weber

## big SQUEEZEBAND

A SUPER HOT BAND! THE SQUEEZEBAND IS IMMERSING IN A NEW MUSICAL WORLD AND WILL MAKE WAVES WITH THIS SPECIAL LINE UP FROM JAZZ TO HIP HOP AND BACK!

**Chico Freeman** - Sax (USA)

**Gilad Atzmon** - Sax (Israel)

**Enrico Rava** – Trumpet (Italy)

**Craig Harris** - Trombone (USA) or Gianluca Petrella – Trombone (Italy)

**Dany Martinez** - Guitar (Cuba)

**Michel Alibo** - Bass (Martinique)

**Nino G** - Humanbeatbox (Italy)

**Reto Weber** - Drums, Percussion (Swiss)



A first class line-up! What more could we ask for? Belonging to the elite of European drummers, Reto Weber has internationalized his successful project "Squeezeband".

In 2003 he began to work with some young and promising Swiss talents and he succeeded at his first go.

After two successful CDs, concerts, tours and festivals throughout Europe, Africa and South America, in 2009 he lifted the Squeeze project to a new level by the addition of the fantastic Beatboxer NINO G, who has been for many years a Squeezeband partner and simply one of the leading figures on the beatbox scene worldwide.

So, he simply invited his friends: the first one being the American saxophone giant CHICO FREEMAN with whom he has been playing with for 20 years, then GIANLUCA PETRELLA a young outstanding trombonist from Italy with whom he played in the band of ENRICO RAVA, and of course ENRICO RAVA, GILAD ATZMON from England on the bass clarinet and alto saxophone, one of the great multi-woodwind instrumentalists. With the addition of DANY MARTINEZ, an unequaled bandleader and groove guitarist, MICHEL ALIBO an extraordinary bassist, well-known for his legendary performances with the group Sixun and CRAIG HARRIS, trombonist, composer, and digeridoo player of note, the band became complete and unique in and of itself.

### **Chico Freeman - Sax (USA)**

Chico Freeman, the multi-reedman, composer and producer embodies the intent of jazz by finding new avenues of expression that embrace the heritage and tradition of the music. Many critics have compared him to the greats in jazz history, but the proof, beyond arguable opinion, is in the fact that he has played and recorded with some of the most innovative musicians in the world. Few artists can equal his list of musical associations: Dizzy Gillespie, McCoy Tyner, Elvin Jones, Charles Mingus, Jack DeJohnette, Art Blakey, Wynton Marsalis, Branford Marsalis, Hank Jones, Freddie Cole, Joe Henderson, Bobby Hutcherson, Roy Haynes, Von Freeman, Arthur Blythe, Billy Hart, Lester Bowie, Famadou Don Moye, Cecil McBee, Kirk Lightsey, John Hicks, Mal Waldron, Earth, Wind & Fire, The Eurythmics, The Temptations, The Four Tops, and many others. From South America to Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic, Freeman has performed and recorded with such Latin greats as Tito Puente, Machito, Irakere, Paquito D'Rivera, Arturo Sandoval, Celia Cruz, Giovanni Hidalgo, Paulinho DaCosta, Nana Vasconcelos, Ray Barretto, Eddie Palmieri and Puerto Rico's famous El Gran Combo.

### **Gilad Atzmon - Sax (Israel)**

In the 1980s, Atzmon worked as a producer and arranger in the field of rock, jazz and world music, for example with Ofra Haza, Jack DeJohnette and Michel Petrucciani.

He plays soprano, alto, tenor and baritone saxophone, and also clarinet, sol, zurna and flute. He was a member of the Blockheads, and worked as a studio musician for colleagues such as Ian Dury, Paul McCartney, Sinéad O'Connor and Robbie Williams. His first CD, he laid before 1994. He founded the Orient House Ensemble, named after the former of PLO headquarters in East Jerusalem - and the CDs with this band he has released since 2000 at the Munich jazz label enja.

His music uses (such as on the album Exile, the BBC chose to "Jazz Album of the Year") Oriental folkloric elements from both Turkey and Israel, not to stop there, free improvisations occur next world and pop music moments .

As a producer he has worked in the past few years for Sarah Gillespie, Elizabeth Simonian, the world music group Yurodny and Robert Wyatt.

### **Enrico Rava - Trumpet (Italy)**

In 1964, he belonged to a quintet of Gato Barbieri - between 1965 and 1968 he played in the group of Steve Lacy (including Johnny Dyani and Louis Moholo). Great deal of attention and his recordings were with Dollar Brand, Archie Shepp, or Dino Saluzzi. In his own bands play John Abercrombie, Jeanne Lee, Roswell Rudd, Jean-François Jenny-Clark and Aldo Romano, as well as Argentine musicians, as he temporarily in lived Buenos Aires, where his wife Graciela worked as a filmmaker. In the 1970s he also composed film scores among other things for Bernardo Bertolucci.

In the 1980s he played with Gil Evans and Cecil Taylor, but always had his own groups, played initially in the jazz-rock idiom. More and more he concentrated on the composition and the Italian tradition. In his CD projects Rava, L'Opera Va and Carmen, he worked intensively with the implementation of opera arias to jazz. With trumpeter Paolo Fresu Rava has recorded several disks on which he deals with the trumpeters in the history of jazz (eg Bix, Shades of Chet, Play Miles Davis). The pianist Stefano Bollani has become known in Enrico Rava's first groups. Since 1997, the trombonist Gianluca Petrella is a member of his quintet. With Gianluca Petrella, Eberhard Weber and Reto Weber, he was also in a trio or quartet "The Europeans" traveling.

2011 was released by the Italian publisher Feltrinelli Enrico Rava's autobiography under the title Incontri con Musicisti straordinari. La storia del mio jazz. He describes his encounters with many international jazz greats like Gato Barbieri, Carla Bley, Don Cherry, Steve Lacy, Cecil Taylor and many others.

Rava in 2002 was awarded the Danish Jazzpar Prize. For his contribution to contemporary European jazz, he received further orders to the French "Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres."

### **Craig Harris – Trombone (USA)**

Harris worked from 1976 to 1978, with Sun Ra and then with Abdullah Ibrahim, with whom he undertook a world tour in 1981. Upon his return, he was joined by David Murray Octet and member of his big band, and with Henry Threadgill, Lester Bowie's Brass Fantasy, Olu Dara, Cecil Taylor, Sam Rivers, Muhal Richard Abrams and Charlie Haden's Liberation Music Orchestra.

He also directed several independent groups, including Tailgater's Tales, and Cold Sweat. In 1988 he founded the Nation of Imagination, Inc., an organization dedicated to the realization of multimedia projects. In collaboration with the poet Sekou Sundiata became The Circle Unbroken Is a Hard Bop (1992) was the winner of the 1993 Bessie Award. In 1994, Lost in Translation, a combination of music, dance and poetry, in Collaboration with David White and Joseph Mellilo, the founders of The Next Wave Festival of the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Marlies Yearby, choreographer and guitarist Vernon Reid.

In the same year he began to work on Sundiata and Return of Elijah, a play that deals with the history of the slave trade (World Premiere 1996). Remembering We Selves in 1997 was listed when he played alongside Amiri Baraka as artistic director, composer and performer. In 1998 he was involved as a composer and conductor of an ensemble of Tongues of Fire Choir, an evening of music and spoken word with Nona Hendryx, Ntozake Shange, Jessica Hagedorn, Regina Carter, Quincy Troupe, Amiri Baraka and Sekou Sundiata. With Ray Anderson, Gary Valente and George Lewis trombone quartet he plays in slideshow Ride.

or

### **Gianluca Petrella - Trombone (Italy)**

In 1993 he recorded with saxophonist Greg Osby ("Do It" in 1994, Right Tempo). In 1995 he was first trumpet in the "OFP" orchestra, which was temporarily under the direction of Carla Bley, Steve Coleman and Bruno Tommaso. In 1995 he was on the compilation CD "Italian Jazz Today" the magazine Musica Jazz. In 1997, he stayed some time in Germany and the Netherlands and toured with Enrico Rava in Canada. In 1998 he toured with drummer Roberto Gatto and his group "The Noise Makers" ("Rugantino" 2000 CAM, also live at the Teatro Sistina, Rome 2001). In 2000 he was a member of the French Orchestre National de Jazz under Paolo Damiani (eg "Charmediterranean", ECM 2001, with Anouar Brahem and Gianluigi Trovesi). He played with almost all the major Italian jazz musicians, including 2001 in the Town Hall in New York with the Quintet of Enrico Rava. With Rava he has a long-standing cooperation, he is also to hear, for example, on the CD "Certi Angelo Segreti" from 1998. 2001 an album has been released under his own name "X-Ray" (Auand). He often accompanied the singer Cristina Zavalloni and played with jazz musicians such as Lester Bowie and Pat Metheny.

In 2007 he received the Eurodjanglo and the "Paul Acket Award", the successor of the Dutch Bird Award.

### **Dany Martinez - Guitar (Cuba)**

Diversity is his most salient characteristic: Dany Martinez plays with "Latinos" as Ganzalo Rubalcaba, Pibo Marquez or Julio Barreto, as well as with jazz musicians of the caliber of Ravi Coltrane and Bob Mintzer. But also he is familiar with the popular music - he is traveling with Rolf Stahlhofen or Lou Bega, playing with Xavier Rudd, turns an album with rapper Shaggy for a Stefan Raab video clip. He is heard on Grammy nominated albums and plays at the major European festivals ...

### **Michel Alibo - Bass (Martinique)**

Michel Alibo is one of jazz and world music's most accomplished and influential musicians. Bassist of choice, not to just some of world music's most visible stars, he's also the premier bassist for entire subcategories of world styles. Michel has laid down textbook grooves in Latin, Caribbean, African, and fusion forms in such subgenres as beguine, reggae, zouk, soukos, groka and many more. More importantly, he's one of the first guys to start crossing 'em all up. He's continued that signature trend, begun as a teenager when he introduced clean and athletic thumb and slap style to African grooves, through today, as he currently focuses on applying the subtle mysteries of North African grooves and concept to electric jazz.

### **NINO G - Humanbeatbox (Italy)**

Nino G doesn't need an instrument. He is one. He knows how to elicit his body the witty artist rhythmic symphonies that enable each ear and heart in ecstasy. Even as 14-year-old he conquered with his mouth the excellent Swiss hip-hop's stages by storm. But this was not enough. Henceforth, Nino G played abroad a human beatbox competition after another, until his talent was finally recognized worldwide. From London to New York (the Mecca of beatbox Arts) Nino G. has performed with the giants of the scene.

### **Reto Weber - Drums, Percussion (Switzerland)**

He has played extensively in the whole world! Concerts and Festivals in Bombay, Dehli, New York, Montreux, Berlin, London, Paris, Montreal, Khartoum, Dakar, Accra, Ougadougou, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Sydney, Durban, Johannesburg, Cape Town, Milano, Hanoi, Madras, LaPaz, Lima, Caracas, Buenos Aires, Sao Paolo, Abidjan, Tunis, Vienna etc. He enjoys working with jazzmusicians notably Albert Mangelsdorff, Chico Freeman, Charlie Mariano, Franco Ambrosetti, Dave Holland, Lee Konitz, Trevor Watts, Henri Texier, Eberhard Weber, Paul McCandless and others.... or for 25 years with his famous Percussion Orchestra and the the Percussionists: Djamchid Chemirani, Muthuswamy Balasubramoniam, and the Soloists Eberhard Weber, Albert Mangelsdorff, Charlie Mariano Chico Freeman, Franco Ambrosetti or Christy Doran. Since 2004 Reto Weber's Squeezeband with young swiss fellows - 2009 the Squeezeband changed back to a international Group with Chico Freeman, Franco Ambrosetti, Nino G, Michel Alibo, Dany Martinez and Gilad Atzmon.